SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

IN IRELAND,

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER,

1859;

WITH APPENDIX.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

DUBLIN:
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1860.

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SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

DIRECTORS OF CONVICT PRISONS

IN IRELAND,

UNDER 17 & 18 VIC., CAP. 76.

TO THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD CARDWELL, M.P.,
CHIEF SECRETARY FOR IRELAND.

Government Prisons' Office, Dublin, Castle,
March, 1860.

SIR,

In accordance with the provisions of the Act 17 & 18 Vic., cap. 76, we beg to submit our Annual Report on the state of the Convict Prisons in Ireland for 1859.

The ordinary reports of the Governors, Chaplains, Medical Officers, and Schoolmasters, are appended in the usual manner.

Accommodation.

The accommodation for convicts in the Government Prisons on the 1st January, 1860, may be estimated as amounting to 3,200.

GOVERNMENT PRISONS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number in custody on 1st January, 1860, . .	1,187	444	1,631
Accommodation on 1st January, 1860, . .	2,750	450	3,200

COUNTY AND CITY GAOLS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number in custody on 1st January, 1860, . .	–	–	–

Gross Total of Convicts in Ireland, 1,631.

NUMBER OF CONVICTS SENTENCED TO PENAL SERVITUDE DURING THE YEAR 1859.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
3 years, ...	63	46	109
4 ,, ...	89	46	135
5 ,, ...	6	1	7
6 ,, ...	9	3	12
7 ,, ...	27	5	32
10 ,, ...	20	3	23
15 ,, ...	1	–	1
Life, ...	3	–	3
Gross Total sentenced in 1859,	218	104	322

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It is very satisfactory to us to be enabled to give the above return, evincing as it does so great a diminution in the number of offenders whose crimes have been of sufficient magnitude to have entailed the punishment of penal servitude.

Disposal of Convicts.

Discharged unconditionally, on completion of sentence, &c., . .	374
Ditto on petition, ...	6
Released on Orders of Licence, ...	215
Total, ...	595

We are again enabled to report, that the number of convicts in the Government Prisons have decreased, as well as the number of offenders who have been sentenced to penal servitude during the year 1859. We subjoin a table showing the number of convictions and discharges, commencing with the year 1854, as well as the number of convicts under sentence of transportation or penal servitude on the 1st January, in each year, from that period.

In custody in Government Prisons, January 1st.	Year.	Convicted.	No. Discharged.
*3933	1854	710	658
3427	1855	518	820
3209	1856	389	1107
2614	1857	426	910
2277	1858	358	946
1773	1859	322	595
†1631	1860	—	—

It will be important to remember in the consideration of these figures, that under the Act 20 & 21 Vic., cap. 3, (June, 1857), sentences of three years' penal servitude became legalized, and a class of prisoners a portion of which were formerly received into the County Prisons, have been under this Act committed to the Convict Depôts. The number so sentenced during the past year has been 109.

This explanation gives to the convictions for the years 1858 and 1859 a still more favourable construction than they otherwise bear.

In addition to this circumstance, and claiming priority of attention, is the fact that since the year 1853 no convicts have been sent from Ireland to a penal colony.

For five years prior to the year 1854, the number of convicts so sent were as follows:—

In 1849, ...	1,543
,, 1850, ...	775
,, 1851, ...	1,082
,, 1852, ...	1,296
,, 1853, ...	604

* In addition to this number there were 345 convicts under detention in the county prisons, and several hundreds in Bermuda and Gibraltar, who were subsequently discharged in Ireland.

† There are only 74 now left in Bermuda and Gibraltar and none in the county prisons.

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Since the year 1854 Ireland has had to absorb, re-incarcerate, or provide for, her own convict population, without any assistance having been afforded her, through the means, and at the expense, of a system of deportation.

As each convict in his transmission to Western Australia, costs the State a considerable expenditure, which is still further increased on his arrival in that colony; it is manifest that a great public saving has been effected by the absorption, re-incarceration, or voluntary migration, of the 5,036 convicts, the number which have been liberated in Ireland from 1854 to December, 1859.* It is important to add to this statement, that on the 1st January, 1860, there were only 1631 convicts in the Government Prisons.

During the past four years the Directors are able to report a very material reduction in the expenditure of the Convict Department—the difference of estimated cost being £28,000 less in the present year than in that of 1856.

If to this sum be added the charge which the State would have incurred through the transmission of a large number of convicts to Western Australia, their support there, and the cost of others at Bermuda and Gibraltar, it becomes obvious that a very considerable amount has been saved to the public service.

This saving, large as it is, has not been obtained at the cost of efficiency; the very reduced number in the Convict Prisons, the general good order and discipline of the establishments, amply confirm this statement. Concurrent with this saving of expenditure, and diminution in the number of convicts, have been the establishment of "Intermediate Prisons" and "Refuges," followed by "conditional liberation" and "Registration." The means of detecting crime and of bringing offenders to justice have been thereby very materially increased, and of course enhance the value of the results which have been obtained.

There are, then, very greatly increased powers of detection co-existing with a decreased number of convicts, and a consequent reduction of expenditure. If crime or irregularity has been committed by those liberated conditionally from the Convict Prisons, it may be fairly assumed that we are in possession, both of the circumstance and of the criminal. We are not aware of any case in which the public have been aggrieved by the continuance at large, under such circumstances, of the offender; neither, on the other hand, are we aware of any well-grounded complaint made by a convict against the police. We have reason to be satisfied, and the public also have reason to be satisfied, that convicts liberated conditionally in Ireland, have been registered. Without a system of registration the information we could give with regard to them would be worth comparatively little.

1,250 convicts have been liberated conditionally in this country between the 3rd March, 1856, and the 3rd March, 1860. Only 77 of these have had their licences revoked. Of these 28 were for cases of irregularity, not criminal, but very properly, by the rules

* There being no patronage societies in Ireland, this country has not reaped the benefit of their assisting liberated criminals.

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involving forfeiture. 854 convicts have been liberated unconditionally from the Intermediate Prison during the same period, and only 20 have as yet been reconsigned to the Government Prisons.

We beg to submit that these results are entirely satisfactory, although in the cases of those unconditionally liberated, the statistics are only negative, and must be taken for what they are worth. As has been stated in our former Reports, a very large number of liberated convicts have thought it to be their best course to emigrate.

With regard to those convicts who, under the Act 16 & 17 Vic., cap. 99 (June 1853), were sentenced to short terms of penal servitude, we had no other course to pursue but that of retaining them until the termination of their sentences, and discharging them without registration or the placing any really efficient check upon their subsequent misconduct. We cannot too strongly deprecate the practice pursued under this Act, and were glad to find that it has since been condemned by the Committee of the House of Commons, which reported on the subject in 1856. It was a practice based upon wrong principles, and one which was utterly ineffectual to promote the reduction of the "criminal class." The only course we are enabled to follow in these cases is that of adopting, as far as possible, a system of communication with the police and the county gaol authorities, whereby the antecedents of criminals again convicted can be brought to the notice of the judicial officers, with the view of their receiving sentences adequate to their perseverance in a career of crime. This system is made as complete as is possible under the circumstances; but by comparison with the course pursued towards those convicts conditionally liberated, it is incomplete in its results.

After the experience thus gained in this country it would have been undesirable that any other regulation should have been made than that convicts sentenced under the Act 20 & 21 Vict., cap. 3 (June, 1857), in all cases of remissions of periods of sentences, should have those periods remitted *conditionally*. The Rules for carrying out this Act are placed in the Appendix. The difference between them and those promulgated by the Home Office in 1857 is this, that instead of liberating the convict *un*conditionally at the period of time when a portion of his sentence is remitted for good conduct, he will in Ireland be under a condition of subsequent good conduct, duly enforced, until the original period of his sentence has been completed—the latter portion of his detention having been in an Intermediate Prison.

We by no means wish to convey the impression that the regulations for carrying out sentences under the Act of 1857 in this country are as satisfactory as they might be made. Consistently with certain periods of remission laid down by the Home Office as applicable to different lengths of sentence, we believe the Irish system to be most complete in its working; but we do not consider these proportionate remissions to be well calculated to secure the object in view.

The Select Committee of the House of Commons, appointed, in 1856, to inquire into the provisions and operation of the Act 16 and 17 Vict. cap. 99, intituled "An Act to substitute in certain

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cases other Punishment in lieu of Transportation," in their fifth and sixth Resolutions, state:

5. "That every punishment by penal servitude should include, first, a certain fixed period of imprisonment and hard labour on public works, to be undergone at all events; secondly, a further period, which should be capable of being abridged by the good conduct of the convict himself."

6. "That it appears from the evidence before the Committee, that bad effects upon the discipline of convicts on the public works have already been caused by the regulations under which it has been made known that no Tickets-of-Leave or other remission of sentence would, in any case, be granted to men sentenced to penal servitude."

These Resolutions have, by the Regulations for carrying out the Act of June, 1857 (20 & 21 Vic. cap. 3), been adopted; but the seventh Resolution states:

7. "That with a view to give full effect to the principle indicated in Resolution Five, the sentences of penal servitude prescribed by the Act should be changed and lengthened, so as to be identical with the terms of transportation for which they are respectively substituted."

And the eighth Resolution is:

8. "That the sentences of penal servitude now in force might be adopted, with some few changes, as the fixed periods recommended in Resolution Five."

The last has unfortunately not been adopted, and it is the result of this course we now propose to point out.

We will, for the sake of example, take the sentence of seven years' penal servitude, the period substituted by the Committee, in their seventh Resolution, for that of seven years' transportation. By the regulations for carrying out the Act 20 & 21 Vic. cap. 3 (June, 1857) this sentence would be passed as five years and three months of detention, the remaining period of one year and nine months being remitted for good conduct in prison. If the eighth Resolution of the Committee had been adopted the sentence of seven years' penal servitude would have been carried out as four years of detention, the remaining three years, or a portion, being remitted on conditions stringently enforced.*

The practical operation of the present Regulations is, that the very great bulk of sentences passed have become those of three years' and four years' penal servitude, which terms are still further shortened through good conduct in prison by six months and nine months respectively.

It would be difficult to account for such a result in any other way than by supposing that the Judicial Officers consider that the prescribed period of detention of five years and three months, out of a sentence of seven years' penal servitude, is a longer term than they are disposed to substitute for the old sentence of seven years' transportation, or its substitute under the Act of 1853, of four years' penal servitude. The offences are the same, and in very many cases the offenders also who received these very sentences. These terms of three years' and four years' penal servitude, shortened as before stated, have now practically become the substitutes of sentences of seven and ten years' transportation before the passing of the Act of 1853, and of four and six years' penal servitude since

* Twelfth and fifteenth Resolutions of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, 1856.

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that period. A reference to the figures marked * in the following table, extracted from the second volume of Judicial Statistics for Great Britain, will prove the correctness of this statement:—

Sentences.	1858.	1857.	1856.	1855.	1854.	1853.	1852.
Death,	53	54	69	50	49	55	60
Transportation:							
For Life,	–	19	57	48	29	38	43
Above fifteen years,	–	20	35	55	35	38	31
Fifteen years and above ten years,	–	71	181	220	246	190	229
Ten ,, ,, seven years,	–	–	–	–	–	565*	797*
Seven years,	–	–	–	–	–	1,033*	1,435*
Penal Servitude.							
For Life,	17	16	2	–	2	10	–
Above fifteen years,	18	21	–	–	–	–	–
Fifteen years and above ten years,	31	62	–	–	–	–	–
Ten ,, ,, six years,	330	304	131	93	100	25	–
Six ,, ,, four years,	372	495	469*	406*	408	97	–
Four years,	867*	1,331*	1,556*	1,542*	1,598	372	–
Three years and under,	495*	244	–	–	–	–	–

We have to record, then, that punishments have become shorter instead of longer, as recommended by the Committee; and consider, that with a view to the reduction of crime and a proper treatment of the criminal, the subject requires the most earnest attention.

It is highly probable that had the recommendation of the Committee in their eighth Resolution been carried out, the great majority of those sentenced to four years' penal servitude would have received sentences of seven years' penal servitude, *i.e.* to four years' detention and three years' conditional liberation. If regulations were adopted in conformity to this Resolution we should anticipate as a consequence a great reduction both of cost to the public and of crime throughout the United Kingdom.

There is in this country a very just and proper appreciation of "conditional liberation and registration." Applied, as it has been, to sentences of transportation, the system was enabled to operate for a considerable period over the criminal, and did so with the greatest advantage both to the public and to himself. We have now to apply the same system to the very short sentences which have been passed under the Act of 1857, and which, unfortunately, form by far the greater portion of them. In the case of a sentence of three years' penal servitude the conditional liberation would be but for six months. In the case of four years' penal servitude it would be for nine months. These are periods of time far too short to reap full benefit from the system, although it is an infinitely preferable course to that of discharging prisoners without any condition whatever.

We have considered it to be our duty to point out the present state both of the sentences and of the regulations for carrying them out, trusting that some measures may be taken to remedy evils of such magnitude and of such importance to the community.

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We do not, in this Report, consider it to be necessary to recapitulate the merits and the details of the "Intermediate System." We have stated them very fully in our Reports for 1856, 1857, and 1858. To the latter Report we particularly invite attention, as a comparison is there drawn between the anticipations expected in our earlier reports, and the results which had been attained at the end of 1858. We now, after another year's experience of these results, extending over 2,300 prisoners, are able completely to confirm the strong opinions we have always expressed of their value. We would not for one moment withhold the credit due to those in our department who have laboured unremittingly in promoting the reformation of the criminal and his well-doing on liberation; but we feel bound to repeat our opinion that the system pursued would be incomplete in its action if unaccompanied by the powerful adjuncts of "conditional liberation" and registration until the expiration of sentences. We have found them to operate as wholesome checks on the criminal, to protect the public, and to be the means —the only means of which we are aware—of effectually scattering "the criminal class."

By their use Crime may, for the first time, be rendered a hazardous and an unprofitable calling.

All authorities agree in the importance of making punishment more certain. Without registration this is scarcely possible; and it is of daily occurrence that "hardened offenders," not identified by the police officers, escape with very trifling punishment. This immunity from the consequences of crime enters very fully into the calculation of the criminal classes, and tends more than any other cause to recruit their ranks. So long as this immunity is suffered to exist so long shall we fail to reap full benefit from our very heavy expenditure, incurred for the purpose of arresting the progress of crime.

On the one hand, the State pays £55,000 per annum for the maintenance of juveniles in Reformatory Schools, and it is an expenditure which is well and zealously administered by the Managers of these Establishments; but, on the other hand, it suffers the adult and hardened offender to train the young to his own calling, the immunity with which he is enabled to do so forming no slight element in the recommendation to his pupil of the advantages of a criminal course.

Without some measures of a more aggressive nature are taken against persons known to belong to the "Criminal Class," in vain may we hope to reduce the vast convict expenditure with which the United Kingdom is now burdened, amounting to £370,154 per annum for Home Service, and £209,399 per annum for Colonial Service (Civil Service Estimates for 1859), in addition to a sum of £530,285 for county and borough prisons (Judicial Statistics, 1858, page 34); in vain may we hope for results proportionate to our Police expenditure, amounting in England alone to £1,447,000* In the second volume of Judicial Statistics, published in June, 1859, it is estimated that crime costs England ten millions

* Judicial Statistics for 1858, page 34.

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annually, and it is stated that there are many heavy items omitted such as Judge's salaries, cost of convicts in the colonies, &c., which show this sum to be an under-estimate. It is, at all events, sufficiently alarming to call for the adoption of the most stringent measures to repress crime, and to prevent the very dangerous aggression upon our social state, which will otherwise be infallibly caused by the liberation in the United Kingdom of thousands of criminals formerly sent out of the country. We have now had some years' experience of the registration of criminals in Ireland, and of their habits and conduct both within and without the walls of the prisons. We feel that we should not be performing our duty if we failed to record as our opinion, that by having recourse to conditional liberation and registration, and by thus giving effect to the twelfth, fifteenth, and sixteenth Resolutions of the Committee of the House of Commons, which sat in 1856, on those points, Crime and its cost might be very materially reduced throughout the United Kingdom.

We have stated that "Intermediate Prisons" would, without the assistance of conditional liberation and registration, be of themselves incomplete; so, on the other hand, without the preliminary treatment of Intermediate Prisons, conditional liberation would be incomplete and unsatisfactory in its results. The system must be taken as a whole to be of full value. It should be felt that each criminal previous to his liberation has been invited to co-operate in his own improvement, and that he has been made aware of the stringent course which will be pursued towards him after his liberation.

If he then fails and again follows crime as a vocation, no possible sympathy can be felt for him. It would be unjust to the public that such a criminal should receive any sentence but that of a very long term of servitude.

The results of closing the opportunities of committing crime, by the early re-incarceration of the offender who still intends following it as a vocation, will very frequently be to cause the pursuance on his part of a very outrageous line of conduct when again placed in prison. Disappointment at his career of crime being suddenly checked, and anger at having been detected, have combined to conduce to such a result. We have several instances of the kind, and are glad to find that instead of preying upon society the offenders are within the walls of the prisons.

The greater part of our prison offences are committed by this class of prisoners, and it is well that it should be so.

This appears to be the proper time to disabuse the minds of many persons with regard to the type of criminality in this country for several years past. Out of Ireland all that it is heard or heeded of her crime is connected with agrarian outrages, and it is therefore assumed that the crime of the country for the greater part takes that form.

Nothing can be further from the truth than this assumption. For many years past, the criminals whom we have discharged, and of whom we write, have been for the greater portion members of the criminal class, burglars, felons, pickpockets, &c., known to the police as following crime as a vocation. It is necessary that this

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statement should be distinctly made, and as clearly understood, or a full appreciation cannot otherwise be felt of the success of the convict system pursued in this country.

It is frequently observed by those who are only superficially acquainted with the treatment of criminals that the dietary of convicts is too high; and they base this assumption on a comparison drawn between the dietary given in the county prisons. They seem to forget, or never to have understood, that the longer period of imprisonment requires a better dietary to support the constitution. The adoption of the lower dietary in use in the county prisons, in the cases of prisoners sentenced to long terms of servitude, would produce disease, and a very serious loss to the public service, in consequence of the want of power of the convict to perform labour. This question was discussed very thoroughly twelve years since by the ablest medical authorities, and finally settled.

The dietary of the Irish Convict Prisons at the present time is as low as the Medical Officers dare to permit—in many instances much lower than the state of health of certain convicts will admit of, and therefore necessitates an increased dietary in their individual cases.

There is another point which requires to be noticed. It is supposed by those not conversant either with the habits of criminals or with the power given by Statute for their treatment when in prison, that there should be some curative process employed *during* detention by which convicts should not be re-convicted. This proceeds from a want of acquaintance with the class of criminals which form the great majority under detention in the Convict Prisons, and who make crime their especial vocation.

All that can be done is by a system of classification and training to improve as many prisoners as will co-operate in their own improvement.

But there will be a large number who will decline any such co-operation, and who will pursue their vocation as vigorously as ever when liberated from prison.

Persons not conversant with this peculiar class conceive that some curative process employed in their cases would have the effect of preventing their return to prison, and suggest that this curative process should be one of extreme severity, which, in their opinion, serves alone to deter from crime. A study of the treatment of criminals some years since would prove this to be an utter fallacy, inasmuch as the gaols were filled to repletion under the system.

At the present day it will be found that the great majority of criminals who are re-convicted are those who have suffered the most penal treatment in the prisons.

The utmost that a good system of convict treatment can accomplish is by good training, and by other appliances, to promote the improvement of, it is to be hoped, the large majority; and by arrangement and system to, as far as is possible, insure the re-conviction and re-incarceration of the remainder. In crime a greater part of the remainder assuredly are; and the sooner the public understands this to be the case the better. Prisons which are only half filled very generally indicate a desirable state of things; but their value

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must not be over-estimated. If criminals have been discharged without any indication of self-improvement, that system may be considered as yet incomplete which does not materially aid in effecting their re-conviction, and thus so far protect the community they would otherwise outrage.

Under any successful prison system the inevitable result of a diminution in the total number of prisoners will be, that as that total number decreases, the proportion of incorrigibles included in it must become greater. It may be compared to a sifting process, by which the refuse would only be left at last.

With regard to the female convicts we have scarcely anything to add to our observations of last year. Further experience of the Refuges still more strongly confirms the advantages of such institutions, as tending not only better to prepare the convicts for release, but also to reconcile the community to employ them. 305 have been placed in the Refuges since the commencement in 1856, and as yet only 14 have been re-consigned to the Convict Prisons for criminal acts. The effect on the conduct of the prisoners themselves during detention has been most marked.

As in the Intermediate Prisons with the male convicts, so with the females, it is only by their own exertions, coupled with qualifications as to time, that they can attain to the Refuges; and we are glad to state that the cases are rare in which these exertions are not sooner or later made by them.

The sanatory condition of the prisoners during the past year has been most satisfactory. The mortality has only been fifteen deaths out of 1,693 prisoners—averaging 0·9 per cent. on the prison population.

In our Report for the year 1857 we alluded to the unhealthy condition of the convicts previous to 1854, and stated that in the latter mentioned year there were 289 deaths, averaging 10·5 per cent. on the prison population; since which time the mortality has gradually and progressively decreased, until the present most favourable results have been obtained; this, however, we impute, not simply to the hygeian arrangements which have been adopted, but also to the attention which is paid to occupy the mind of the individual undergoing punishment, and to promote energy of action at the same time that hope and emulation are excited by the system of badges and gratuities in use.

It has been our aim as far as possible that the prisoners should be discharged in a healthy condition, physically as well as morally qualified to take their place amongst the labouring population. We have at the same time endeavoured to keep the diet of the prisoners as low as is consistent with the due preservation of their health. For that reason, during the first four months of their separate imprisonment, no meat is allowed to the convict; after that period it becomes necessary in the great majority of cases to increase the diet and support the constitution, for the purpose both of preventing the inroads of disease and of preparing the prisoner for hard labour in association. We are, however, always careful that the food should in no instance exceed what is considered to be absolutely requisite. We endeavour to avoid as much as possible allowing the

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prisoners privileges which have not a good moral tendency, as it is generally from self-indulgence and the gratification of animal propensities that their crimes have originated.

Several cases of insanity were removed to the Central Asylum at Dundrum, but in most instances they came from the class of weak-minded and incorrigible prisoners who are so difficult to manage in a Convict Depôt. In no case has insanity been in the least degree attributable to cellular imprisonment, the effects of which are watched by the Medical Officers at Mountjoy with the greatest attention.

In concluding this Report we beg to call attention to the circumstances that the system of Intermediate Prisons and Refuges, followed by conditional liberation, has been in operation in this country for nearly four years and a-half. The results have been not only very considerably to reduce the public expenditure and beneficially to extend the application of convict labour, but, what is of still greater importance, very materially to reduce the "criminal class"; a class not composed of accidental offenders, or of those who have merely lapsed from innocence, but of "habitual criminals," who have through life made crime their vocation.

This system was devised at a time when to procure a suitable outlet for convicts had become an insuperable difficulty; when it was dreaded, as it well might be dreaded, that in time a great social upheaving would take place through the liberation in the United Kingdom of thousands of criminals formerly sent out of the country.

That the "criminal class" are at this moment both dominant, excessively formidable and costly, is proved by reference to Mr. Redgrave's second volume of Judicial Statistics, published in June, 1859. We consider, therefore, that we should fail in the performance of our duty did we not take this opportunity of calling especial attention to a system which at a very important crisis has proved to be entirely adequate to the requirement.

We have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servants,

WALTER CROFTON, *Chairman.*

JOHN LENTAIGNE, } *Directors.*
I. S. WHITTY, }

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

MOUNTJOY MALE CONVICT PRISON.

Directors' Report.

The satisfactory condition of this prison, as stated in our last Report, still continues. The buildings are in good repair, and during the year required no alteration beyond some slight improvements, which have been effected, principally in the school, by the convict labour of the boys in the carpenter's class.

The male convicts condemned to penal servitude have, with few exceptions, spent the term of their probation in this prison. In most cases their conduct was sufficiently satisfactory to entitle them to the privilege of having their term of probation reduced from nine to eight months, according to the regulation referred to in our last Report, and they were then transferred, under the most favourable circumstances for classification, to hard labour in association.

The conduct of the officers of this prison still continues to meet with our approbation; and the Governor reports that they have been most attentive to their duties.

By reference to the reports of the Chaplains and the head Schoolmaster, it will be seen that the prisoners are generally attentive to the instruction imparted to them, and are anxious to profit by it. The conduct of both adults and juveniles show that this instruction has produced the best effects.

The juvenile prisoners evince the same hopeful spirit as that to which we alluded in our last Report. With few exceptions they appear anxious to acquire knowledge, and are steady and well-conducted. Their classification, and removal to Intermediate Prisons stimulate them to exertion. They are usefully and profitably employed, at trades. The carpenter's class have done some good work in fittings at the Female Prison, and the garden class are an intelligent, well-instructed set of boys, who cultivate the prison garden of between three and four acres, in an efficient manner. On the whole, we have reason to be very well satisfied with the training they have received.

Since our last Report the Protestant Chaplain of this prison, the Rev. J. Black, has resigned. He has been succeeded by the Rev. Thomas Shore, who has given the convict prison service the benefit of his very zealous labours for many years.

Throughout 1859 the sanitary condition of this prison has been very good, but one death only having occurred among the prisoners.

WALTER CROFTON, *Chairman.*
JOHN LENTAIGNE, }
I. S. WHITTY, } *Directors.*

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GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Governor's Report.

Mountjoy Government Prison,
January 6, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—In forwarding the annual statistics of this prison, which I have now the honour to submit, it is my pleasing duty to report most favourably; the experience of the past year having still further developed the beneficial effects of the system progressively manifested in the preceding years.

The general conduct of the prisoners has been highly satisfactory, the number of defaults have considerably decreased, and were confined to a comparatively very small proportion of the inmates; no assault on an officer has occurred during the year, and cases of grose insubordination, or offences of a grave nature, have but rarely happened, and were committed almost exclusively by some debased reconvicted criminals and wayward prisoners of the juvenile class. In short, out of 301 adult convicts transferred to Spike Island and Philipstown depots in the year 1859, 246 never committed even the slightest breach of prison rules whilst in custody at Mountjoy. All of those men, exclusive of a few special cases, and who on medical grounds were transferred at an earlier period, became eligible for removal in eight, instead of the usual preliminary term of nine, months, owing to their merit, and as a reward for good conduct—an arrangement practically found to be a most admirable one, well calculated as a boon and source of encouragement to the well disposed prisoners.

The conduct of the juvenile class in general has greatly improved, twenty-six of whom were, during the year, removed to Smithfield Intermediate Prison.

With reference to the convicts sent here for misconduct at Spike Island depot, the discipline of the penal ward has continued to operate as a salutary and effectual deterrent—a circumstance generally evinced by their orderly demeanour, their promises of future good behaviour, and repeated solicitations to be released from the ward.

During the past, as in the preceding year, the adults were employed picking oakum in their cells, and the juveniles at their respective occupations of tailoring, shoemaking, carpentry, smithwork and gardening. Every attention has been paid towards the moral, educational, and industrial progress of both classes of prisoners; and in the discipline and general management of the establishment I have received the efficient and zealous co-operation of the principal officers of each department in carrying out the directions of your Board, and the subordinate officers in general have, in the performance of their duties, afforded me satisfaction.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT NETTERVILLE, Governor.

The Directors of Convict Prisons.

"I certify that the rules laid down for the government of the prison have been complied with during the past year, except in such cases as have been reported to, or brought under the notice of, a Director."

ROBERT NETTERVILLE, Governor.

STATEMENT of the NUMBER of CONVICTS committed and disposed of, from 1st January, 1859, to 31st December, 1859.

Received from—		Removed to—	
County and City Gaols,	208	Spike Island G. Prison,	213
Convict Depots,	45	Philipstown ,,	88
Term of Licence being revoked,	9	Smithfield ,,	26
Military Prisoners,	11	Dundrum Lunatic Asylum,	1
In custody 1st January, 1859,	327	Died,	1
		Discharged on Licence,	2
		Do. unconditionally,	17
		Remaining in custody Dec. 31, 1859,	252
	600		600

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Governor's Report.

CLASSIFICATION of CRIMES for which those Prisoners have been sentenced who were received during the year ending 31st December, 1859.

Arson, Workhouse, &c.,	7	Highway robbery,	7
,, and previous conviction,	1	Larceny,	27
Assault,	4	,, from the person,	27
Assaulting a Dwelling,	1	,, and previous conviction,	29
Assault and Robbery,	4	,, and prison breach,	1
Attack on Cappoquin Police Barrack,	1	,, and felony,	1
Appearing armed by night, and attacking dwelling house,	1	Malicious assault,	4
Burglary,	32	Manslaughter,	7
,, and felony,	5	Murder,	1
,, and robbery,	14	Military offences,	11
,, and larceny,	8	Obtaining money under false pretences,	1
Coining,	2	Rape,	2
Cutting and wounding,	1	Robbery,	2
Embezzlement,	1	Receiving stolen goods,	11
Felony,	7	Shooting at,	1
,, after previous conviction,	9	Stealing cattle,	6
Forgery,	2	,, lead and glass,	4
Having the signs and passwords of an illegal society in possession,	1	,, sheep,	12
Housebreaking,	4	Sacrilege,	3
,, and felony,	2	Treason felony,	1
,, and robbery,	4	Uttering counterfeit coin, and former conviction,	2
,, and stealing therein,	1	Whiteboy offences,	1.

SENTENCES of the PRISONERS committed to this Prison during the year ended 31st December, 1859.

Seven years' transportation,	2	Five years' penal servitude,	6
Ten ,,	5	Six ,, ,,	23
Fourteen ,,	2	Seven ,, ,,	27
Fifteen ,,	3	Eight ,, ,,	1
Life ,,	2	Ten† ,, ,,	23
	14	Fourteen ,, ,,	1
		Fifteen ,, ,,	2
Three years' penal servitude,*	66	Life,‡	2
Four ,, ,,	108		259
Married, 57.		Single, 216.	

Protestants, 34. Roman Catholics, 234. Presbyterians, 5.

CLASSIFIED STATEMENT of the NUMBER of OFFENCES committed by the Prisoners during the year ended 31st December, 1859.

Gross insubordination,	13	Idleness,	16
Insubordination,	42	Insolence,	66
Disobedience and insolence,	87	Communicating and other minor offences,	250
Assaults on convicts (juveniles),	14	Feigned attempt at suicide,	2
Theft,	4	Total,	494

Number of juvenile prisoners who were punished,	70
,, adult ,, ,,	59
Total,	129
Number of offences committed by juveniles,	344
,, ,, adults,	150
Total,	494

* One of this number commuted to one year's penal servitude.
† One of this number commuted to seven years' penal servitude.
‡ One of this number commuted to one year's penal servitude.

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Governor's Report.

AGES of PRISONERS on CONVICTION.

Under fifteen years of age,	3	Forty, and under fifty,	7
Fifteen, and under twenty,	84	Fifty, and under sixty,	9
Twenty, and under twenty-five,	83	Sixty, and over,	2
Twenty-five, and under thirty,	54		
Thirty, and under forty,	31	Total,	273

TABLE showing the reported PREVIOUS* IMPRISONMENT of the Prisoners received during the year ended 31st December, 1859.

Never in prison before,	51	Six times in prison before,	6	Ten and under fifteen times,	14
Once,	59	Seven,	7	Fifteen and over,	7
Twice,	36	Eight,	1	Antecedents not known,	28
Three times,	23	Nine,	5	Ticket of licence convicts revoked,†	13
Four,	19	Ten,	7		
Five,	10				

NUMBER of JUVENILES admitted in association during the year ended 31st December, 1859, and instructed in trades, as

Tailors,	27	Removed Tailors,	32
Shoemakers,	26	„ Shoemakers,	26
Garden labourers,	16	„ Garden labourers,	5
Smiths, &c.,	2	„ Smiths,	1
Carpenters,	4	„ Carpenters,	3
Numbers on 31st December, 1858,	88	Remaining 31st December, 1859,	96
	163		163

RETURN of WORK performed in the Tailors' and Shoemakers' Department during the year ended 31st December, 1859.

SHOEMAKING.	Pairs.		
Men's shoes made,	431	Prisoners' frieze vests made,	32
„ repaired,	946	„ trowsers „	37
Women's shoes made,	147	„ caps, „	24
„ repaired,	226	Flannel drawers,	300
Officers' slippers made,	81	Cheviot tweed coats „	2
„ repaired,	81	„ vests „	41
Officers' boots,	26	„ trowsers „	157
Canvas slippers made,	2	Linen smocks „	144
Women's canvas slippers made,	35	Polka jackets „	24
Prisoners' boots made,	1½	Reefing coats „	24
Uniform belts made,	52	Grey frieze jackets repaired,	342
TAILORING.		„ trowsers „	373
Officers' top coats made,	26	„ vests „	241
„ frock „ „	53	„ caps „	18
„ trowsers „	74	„ jackets faced,	199
„ caps „	72	„ „ badged,	189
„ top coats repaired,	13	Prisoners' suspenders made (well) pairs,	316
„ frock „ „	38	Prisoners' towels made,	758
„ trowsers „	36	Calico badges „	600
„ caps „	19	„ bags „	14
„ tweed coats made,	13	„ shirts repaired,	230
„ „ trowsers „	14	Linen sheets „	260
„ „ vests „	13	Blankets „	175
Prisoners' frieze jackets made,	13		

* There may be many more previous convictions than those reported.
† Four of these were re-convicted while on licence.

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Governor's Report.

STATEMENT of EXPENDITURE for the year ended 31st December, 1859.

HEADS OF SERVICE.	£	s.	d.
Salaries,	3,418	16	10
Victualling, including two officers' rations,	2,176	14	4
Fuel and light,	853	4	10
Contingencies,	73	18	11
Utensils and furniture,	86	19	9
Medical and surgical instruments,	32	17	9
Medical comforts for sick,	50	1	3
Gratuities to prisoners,		—	
Freights and charges,	10	18	3
Travelling charges,	0	8	8
Prisoners on discharge,	31	7	10
Funeral expenses,	0	14	0
Washing and soap,	222	2	3
Cleaning prison,	83	17	8
Officers' clothing,	203	10	11
Advertising,	9	6	6
Prisoners' clothing,	1,118	11	5
Rents, rates, and taxes,	40	0	0
Allowance to officers in charge of penal ward,	36	0	0
Total,	8,449	11	2

RETURN showing the value of the Productive Labour of the Prisoners employed in the undermentioned branches during the year ended 31st December, 1859.

Description of Work.	Amount. £	s.	d.	Average No. of Prisoners employed.
Shoemaking,	159	11	10	40·12.
Tailoring,	125	1	1	35·30.
Carpenters' work,	79	17	6	3·97.
Smiths' „	44	15	6	2·.
*Garden labour,	115	10	0	14·10.
†Fatigue work, cleaning prison, cooking, &c., &c.,	299	10	0	17·90.
Total,	824	5	11	

Medical Officer's Report.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Government Prison (Male),
January 2, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to lay before you a report of the sanitary condition of the Mountjoy (male) Government Prison during the year 1859.

From the following returns it appears that no epidemic or infectious disease has during the past year visited this institution, and that as heretofore mild febrile attacks of diarrhœa and various scrofulous affections form the bulk of the cases admitted.

The following table, showing the whole number of prisoners in this prison, the whole number of patients treated in hospital, and the number of deaths in each year since the prison was opened, ten years ago, proves that the health of the inmates is not deteriorating under the present system.

Year.	Total No. committed to this Prison.	Number admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
1850	962	253	2
1851	1,075	355	7
1852	971	466	5
1853	1,178	456	10
1854	1,096	503	9
1855	1,052	344	9
1856	841	292	3
1857	756	295	3
1858	661	221	2
1859	600	210	1

* In this item is included the labour in the female prison.

† The adult convicts (with this exception) of this prison are employed in picking oakum and such like work, which produces only a very moderate profit.

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Medical Officer's Report.

HOSPITAL RETURN for the year 1859.

Number of Prisoners in custody in this Prison 1st January, 1859,	327	600
Number of Prisoners received into this Prison during the year,	273	
Patients in Hospital, 1st January, 1859,	12	210
Admitted during the year,	198	
Discharged,	188	200
Removed to other Gaols,	11	
Deaths,	1	
Remaining in Hospital, 1st January, 1860,	10	

DEATHS.

Reg. No., 4887; name, L. F.; age, 21; received in Hospital, 25th August, 1859; died, 25th October, 1859.

MONTHLY STATE of HOSPITAL for the year 1859.

Admitted, 1859.	Discharged.	Died.	Remaining.
Jan. 1st, in Hospital, 12			
,, admitted, 18	22	–	8
February, – – 25	15	–	10
March, – – 23	9	–	14
April, – – 24	13	–	11
May, – – 43	25	–	18
June, – – 35	19	–	16
July, – – 38	19	–	19
August, – – 29	16	–	13
September, – – 25	12	–	13
October, – – 28	13	1	14
November, – – 30	15	–	15
December, – – 31	21	–	10 in Hos. 1st Jan., 1860.

DISEASES of PRISONERS admitted to HOSPITAL during the year 1859.

Abscess,	3	Heart Disease,	3	Psoriasis,	1
Anasarca,	1	Inflamed Bursa,	2	Rheumatism,	1
Bronchitis,	2	Injury to Eye,	1	Scrofulous glands,	15
Cataract,	2	Mania (temporary),	3	Stricture,	2
Diarrhœa,	31	Neuralgia,	3	Syphilis,	9
Debility,	15	Ophthalmia,	21	Ulcers of leg, 3	5
Dyspepsia,	8	Observation, for,	23	,, of ankle, 2	
Disease of hip,	1	Porrigo Capitis,	2	Whitlow,	4
Epileptic,	2	Pleuritis,	2	White swelling,	3
Feverish attacks,	25	Phthisis,	2		
Gumboil,	5	Periostitis,	1	Total,	198

Total of individuals admitted during the year 1859,	123
Prisoners prescribed for in the Prison,	1,129
Individual Prisoners that had change of Diet,	63
,, that had extra exercise,	37

Of the entire number of prisoners received into this prison during the past year, a somewhat larger per centage, than has been usual latterly, has been deemed unfit for the discipline of the prison, and accordingly has been recommended for removal. These cases amount to thirteen in all (eleven removed from hospital, two from the prison).

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Mountjoy Government Prison.

Prisoners removed on Medical Grounds during the year 1859.

Medical Officer's Report.

Registry No.	Name.	Removed from	Grounds for recommending removal.
4889	P. M. -	Hospital, -	Subject to Epilepsy.
4897	P. F. -	,,	Reason to believe that he was Epileptic.
4893	M. K. -	,,	General delicacy and partial Paralysis.
4816	C. H. -	,,	Chronic Bronchitis and Emphyssma.
4917	P. D. -	,,	Pulmonary Consumption.
4946	P. G. -	,,	Psoas Abscess.
4808	T. H. -	,,	Pulmonary Consumption.
5111	J. E. -	Prison, -	Blindness.
5171	P. B. -	,,	Blindness.
4333	J. C. -	Hospital, -	Reason to fear Mental Derangement.
4989	P. D. -	,,	Temporary Mania.
5112	P. C. -	,,	Reason, from report of Military Medical Board, to fear Mental Derangement.
4464	T. S. -	,,	Mania.

Three cases of acute or temporary mania appear in the hospital return of these two of the patients were juvenile prisoners, one an adult; in the latter instance the attack was transient, and the patient was removed to Philipstown convalescent. One of the juveniles has perfectly recovered, and, being in association, it was not considered necessary to recommend his removal. In the second juvenile case the attacks of mania were recurrent, and so violent, that this prisoner was sent to the Dundrum Lunatic Asylum.

Since the 29th of October, 1858, flesh meat has been omitted from the diet of all healthy adult prisoners received into this prison during the first two months after their reception. A sufficient time, therefore, has now elapsed to allow me to form an opinion as to this arrangement. Within this period (omitting juvenile and penal prisoners), 282 individuals have been received; 89 of these were not considered to be sufficiently strong and healthy to be deprived of meat altogether; 193 robust men were placed for the first two months on "reception diet," consisting of broth with fresh succulent vegetables on two days in each week, but no meat. I am happy to be able to report favourably of this modification of diet, and having given the subject the closest attention, I feel justified in recommending that in the case of *robust adult* prisoners the "reception diet" shall be adopted during the first four months of confinement in this prison.

It is gratifying to me to be able to speak of the great courtesy with which any suggestions of mine are received by the gentlemen occupied in the management of the various departments of this institution when our respective duties occasionally touch on one another; and in conclusion, I must, as heretofore, express my approbation of the services of those who are engaged along with me in conducting the medical department of this prison.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Robert M'Donnell, M.D.

To the Chairman and Directors of
Government Convict Prisons in Ireland.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Male Government Prison,
January 3, 1860.

Gentlemen,—Having been transferred in August last from Smithfield to this prison, I felt most anxious to see the progress of reformatory discipline here, where every one sentenced to penal servitude is confined for the first eight or nine months of the period of his sentence. In Smithfield prison I had, since it was first opened, the charge of convicts in the *final* stage of their detention, and in my report for the year 1857 (*vide* Fourth Report of the Directors), I said—"I feel deeply that the efforts for the reformation

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of a convict should be commenced from the first hour of his being given into our charge; for a few months—nay, a year—under the reformatory system in Smithfield cannot enable us to work effectually on a man if the preceding time of his confinement, *particularly the first six or twelve months*, shall not have been zealously improved in labouring at his mental and moral culture."

MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

The experience I have had in this prison for the last four months has confirmed me in the opinion I then expressed, and it is most gratifying to me to find in this prison every facility afforded and all means used for the attainment of the object which I feel to be so important. Here the whole system is directed to lead a prisoner to reflect upon the past and to look forward to the future. Placed under the strictest discipline, he finds that discipline carried out with kindness and discrimination. The solitude in which he spends his time is relieved by the opportunities I have of supplying him with means of moral and religious improvement, which, when at large, he neglected or despised. Now he avails himself of them—at first, possibly, from no better motive than a wish to beguile his lonely hours, but thus food for thought is supplied to him, and, secluded from all distracting influences, he begins to reflect—probably for the first time in his life. He attends divine service twice every Sabbath, and an adult class for simple religious instruction every Tuesday. I feel, however, that the most important part of my duties consists in visiting the prisoners alone in their cells. Those visits are most gratefully received; in but two instances have I found an unwillingness on the prisoner's part to express honestly the state of his mind, and truly gratifying is it to discern and watch over the gradual growth of sounder views and better feelings, while in several instances I have been enabled to see such a change as convinces me that, under the Divine blessing, the convict has become, indeed, "a new creature." Many have declared to me that they had learned to regard their committal to this prison as a kind intervention of Providence to stop them in their career of sin, and to lead them to think on better things; and some have even expressed an earnest desire that they might be permitted to remain here, confined in their solitary cells, for the entire period to which they were sentenced, so much did they enjoy reading and meditation, and so anxious were they for mental and spiritual improvement. How different this from all their former thoughts and views! nay, how perfectly opposite to the state of mind of most of them for some time after their first committal to this prison.

I naturally feel great regret at parting with these men, when, at the end of nine months, they are transmitted to Spike Island or Philipstown. Of the future good conduct of many of them I have not the least doubt, but there is a large proportion of them in whom those newly awakened feelings will need much careful cultivation. If they be watched over, guided and encouraged, I am certain they will do well; while, on the other hand, I can well conceive how a man, leaving this prison with the best feelings and intentions, may be tempted to give them up in despair, if he be not handled with judgment and discrimination, and if an inadvertent or unintentional omission be dealt with as if it were wilful misconduct.

The "juveniles" (under sixteen years of age) form a distinct class here, being employed at trades, &c., and never sent to the associated prisons, but retained until they have attained the grade which will qualify them for direct transmission to the Intermediate Prison in Smithfield. This is by far the least hopeful class. Lads so young are seldom sentenced to penal servitude for their first offence. In most cases they have graduated in crime for years, and consequently have previously spent much time in the ordinary county gaols before they came here. The results are obvious. In them, as well as in adults who have undergone previous imprisonment in ordinary gaols, there is a callousness and a recklessness which is very deplorable. They seem to look upon themselves as outcasts, without hope, and beyond amendment. As regards the class of "juveniles," I trust that it will be greatly diminished, if not altogether superseded, by the opening of "reformatory schools" in Ireland. I therefore feel it unnecessary to dwell upon the peculiarity of treatment which that class appears to me to require.

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

In conclusion, I would add, that I feel most grateful to the Governor and Deputy Governor for their unvarying kindnese and co-operation. Indeed, I have received every possible facility and attention from all the officers of this establisbment, and I feel myself bound to particularize Mr. Browne, the chief warder, who, in addition to the most diligent discharge of his ordinary duties, devotes himeelf heartily and zealously to carrying out the reformatory priaciple with eound judgment and wise discrimination, and I can plainly see the effects of his excellent counsel and example upon all his subordinate officers.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

THOMAS R. SHORE, Protestant Chaplain.

The Chairman and Directors of
Government Prisons in Ireland.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

January 2, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg to lay before you my report for the year 1859. The normal state of the prieon being so uniformly maintained, I have to vary very little the statements of my reports of former years. The prisoners exhibit much attention to the public instructions I give them. They assist at the public services of religion, especially the adorable sacrifice of the mass, with every appearance of devotion and reverence. They approach the sacraments of penance and the holy Eucharist with due appreciation of these sacred institutions, and with every mark of the necessary dispositions. Also, in my intercourse with them individually, I have found them tractable, docile, and respectful. Of course I have met with cases of exception. They have been, however, fewer than might be expected amongst persons of such antecedonte. On the whole, therefore, I rejoice to be able to give a satisfactory account of the manner in which they have availed themselves of my ministry during the year.

In my last report I took the liberty of submitting to you some remarks in reference to the prieonere iu the penal ward, as also to prisónere who on coming to the institution are found to be so deplorably ignorant as not to be aoquainted even with the principal mysteries of religion. I wish to refer at preeent to these remarks for the purpose of observing that further experience has not altered my opinions with respect to these unhappy two portions of my charge, and I would venture to urge again on your attention the suggestions I then made, with, however, all due respect for your judgment in their case.

I detected during the year some objectionable books in the hands of certain prisoners under my charge. However, I have reason to hope that the matter occurred accidentally; and I refer to it here, in order to record tho prompt attention paid to it by the proper authoritiee, which is a sure guarantee against abuses of that nature taking effeot to any extent in the inetitution.

I am happy to state, that the fullest opportunities are afforded to the prisoners for religious instruction and compliance with their religioue obligatione; and I feel it due to the Governor, the Deputy Governor, and the other functionarios, to acknowledge the attention and willing oo-operation which I have experienced at their hands in the discharge of my duties during the year.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, very faithfully yours,

MICHAEL CONY, Roman Catholic Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

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PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Mountjoy Government Male Convict Prison, Dublin,
January, 6, 1860.

Presbyterian Chaplain's Report.

GENTLEMEN,—In presenting my annual report, I have to state that my retrospect of the past year, in all that concerns the discipline of the prison, and the conduct of the prisoners under my care, is most satisfactory. The general diminution of crime in this country, in which the religious denomination to which I belong has largely shared, left but few individuals in custody to whose spiritual welfare I was required to minister; and the behaviour of all of these during the entire year was, with a few very trivial exceptions, irreproachable and exemplary. Be their future what it may, their conduct while here elicited the almost unqualified approval of the officers in charge of them, and their decorum and earnest attention during the stated services in the church, as well as regard to my private instructions in the cell, were to me generally most gratifying and encouraging. They were, as a whole, of a class somewhat inferior to those of former years, a few being unable to read, and others reading imperfectly; and while all were well conducted and amenable to prison discipline, there were some who seemed to be little impressed and profited by the religious and moral agencies employed for their good, while others gave pleasing evidence of being fully persuaded to avoid and resist that which is evil, and to cleave to that which is good in future.

My general course of ministerial instruction and aid to the prisoners was, during the past year, similar to that previously adopted. In addition to the regular religious services every Lord's day, I usually visited, catechised and instructed twice a week, when health permitted; distributed in constant succession useful and interesting books, of which I received a liberal grant from your Board some months ago; and took advantage of my private intercourse with the prisoners to suggest and enforce many practical lessons, especially in reference to their future, more effectively, as it seemed to me, than could have been done by any mere public address.

During the year a juvenile convict, the only one of the class in my charge, and in whose welfare I felt a deep interest, was discharged from prison, and soon after formed a suitable engagement, in which, I trust, he will, by the blessing of God, prove faithful, and guard resolutely against temptation, crime, and punishment, in future.

The course of school instruction was regularly pursued under the able Superintendent and his assistants; and I noticed with pleasure the decided progress of some when examining them personally. One or two cases were hopeless.

The health and spirits of the convicts were in general good, yet my visits to the hospital were rather frequent, mainly owing to an inveterate affection of the eyes to which a prisoner under my care was subject, in which, as in every other case with which I was connected, the most sedulous attention was paid by the doctor and the officials presiding over that admirably conducted department of the prison establishment.

The only serious drawback in my record of the past year was that concerning the return to durance of several convicts who had been previously sentenced to transportation or penal servitude. Regarding those, whose second fall arose, in part at least, from the trying difficulties that surround a liberated convict when returning to his former neighbourhood, I have sometimes thought some change in the process of punishment, combined with reformation, might be advantageously adopted. If there be one case more hopeless than another as to ultimate improvement and usefulness in life, it seems to me to be this. But the proper treatment of a convict who has fallen a second time or oftener under the sentence of the law is beset with many difficulties.

I have, in conclusion, to express my high satisfaction with the present excellent and very efficient state of management and discipline in the prison. I was recently informed by one of the principal warders that, during one whole week, not a single prisoner within the walls had suffered any punishment for the slightest misconduct or breach of prison rules. I

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Presbyterian Chaplain's Report.

may not particularize officers, where the discharge of duty on the part of all, as far as observed by me, was deserving of all praise; but I cordially express my sincere acknowledgments to all with whom I came in contact, and rejoice in the existing order, harmony, and efficiency of the entire institution, conducing alike to the contentment and real improvement of the occupant of the separate cell.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM WILSON, Presbyterian Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

HEAD SCHOOLMASTER'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Government Prison,
February 21, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year ended 31st December, 1859.

I feel much pleasure in being enabled to report most favourably of the working and results of the education department for the past year. The prisoners, with scarcely an exception, had been most attentive and industrious at school: this circumstance arises, I believe, from these two causes:—1st, the calming and sustaining influence of the present system of prison discipline—embodying, as it does, the element of hope as well as the principle of fear; and 2nd, the picturing out to them clearly and forcibly the advantages of education upon their first attendance in the school-room; and not, as some might infer, from any innate love or desire already existing in them for the possession of useful knowledge.

TABLE showing the PROGRESS of the Prisoners* who passed through Mountjoy Prison during the Year ended 31st December, 1859.

Subjects examined in, and Degree of Proficiency attained.	Numbers.				Per centages.			
	On admission.		On removal.		On admission.		On removal.	
	Juveniles	Adults.	Juveniles	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.	Juveniles.	Adults.
READING—								
Nil,	21	83	–	15	51·2	28·3	–	5·1
Badly,	10	137	3	141	24·4	46·7	7·3	48·1
Well,	10	73	38	137	24·4	24·9	92·7	46·7
Totals,	41	293	41	293	100·0	99·9	100·0	99·9
WRITING—								
Nil,	29	167	–	46	70·7	57·0	–	15·6
Badly,	12	117	4	146	29·3	39·9	9·8	49·8
Well,	–	9	37	101	–	3·0	90·2	34·4
Totals,	41	293	41	293	100·0	99·9	100·0	99·8
ARITHMETIC—								
Nil,	30	184	–	57	73·2	62·7	–	19·4
Part of simple rules,	7	84	13	146	17·1	28·6	31·7	49·8
Part of compound rules,	3	11	3	38	7·3	3·7	7·3	13·0
Proportion and above,	1	14	25	52	2·4	4·7	61·0	17·7
Totals,	41	293	41	293	100·0	99·7	100·0	99·9

* This includes prisoners physically or mentally incapacited to learn any of the above branches of education; it also includes 29 prisoners not allowed the privilege of attending school on special grounds; but it does not include 12 prisoners who had not been classified during their detention here, owing to causes over which the teachers had no control, such as illness upon reception continuing until removal; removal immediately after admission, &c.

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

The foregoing tabular statement—the materials of which have been collected, with great care and labour, from the school register—conveys a very accurate idea of the prisoners' progress at school. I should, perhaps, add, that this table does not contain that progress of the prisoners, which cannot be measured by figures, the nature of which being fully explained in my last report, renders it quite unnecessary for me here more than to allude to.

This table shows one fact very plainly, viz.—that the proficiency of the juveniles upon admission is not greater, but actually somewhat less, than that of the adults. It exhibits another fact also very plainly, viz.—that the proficiency of the juveniles upon removal is greater, to a very striking extent, than that of the adults. In accounting for the latter, without being in possession of the former, one would be very likely to think that the juveniles, upon their admission into the prison, must have had great odds of the adults in point of attainments. The first fact alluded to may be satisfactorily accounted for in this way: the adults being older and living for a longer period in crime, must have passed, owing to the vicissitudes of fortune, a greater portion of their life at school in the county gaols, where they learned, or, perhaps more correctly, picked up a little from time to time. To any person acquainted with the fact, that adult prisoners are removed from this prison to another depôt, after a detention of eight months as the general rule, and that the juvenile prisoners are detained here on an average about two years, no difficulty could present itself in accounting, with the greatest certainty, for the discrepancy between the progress of the adults and juveniles, both of which, I trust, will be deemed satisfactory.

In my last report I took occasion to bear my humble testimony to the ability and worth of some of the officers of the prison, whose merits I believed it my duty to make known to the authorities. Lest silence now might be construed unfavourably, I beg to make the following observations. Without again particularizing these officers, I beg to assure the Directors that the opinion I then expressed is only the more strengthened from the increased experience of another year. I cannot speak too highly of the officers of my own department. Year after year rolls on, and, as far as my recollection carries me, even a verbal complaint of one of the present teachers, for the last three years, I have not felt it necessary to make. I am quite sure, gentlemen, you will agree with me in my humble opinion, viz.—that unanimity amongst a staff of officers, in any department, is absolutely essential to the efficient and successful working and full development of that department. I have always thought so; and I have spared no pains in promoting and securing that great object.

I have always endeavoured, to the best of my ability, to promote self-instruction amongst the prisoners. I embrace every opportunity of inculcating upon them the necessity of private application, for which the separate cell affords such facilities; because I knew that the time, hitherto uselessly spent each evening after "lock-up," might be turned to a profitable use. Even the grown-up man, ignorant of the alphabet, is now employed at his book in the cell. How? it may be asked. Before this can be well understood, it is necessary to become acquainted with the following circumstance:—all, or nearly all, of the prisoners who are ignorant of the alphabet when the letters are taken indiscriminately, are able to say them correctly off as well as on the book when the letters are taken consecutively; in other words, they have off the names of the letters, without knowing them individually, each by its own name. Little as this knowledge in the prisoner is, it is made the instrument by which he acquires more from his own assiduity—he needs to be shown only the way. This is very simply done. A book containing the alphabet is placed in his own hands, and a letter in the body of the alphabet pointed at. The prisoner looks at it, but does not know it; he tells the teacher so; he is asked could he find it out; he thinks; says he could, by commencing at *a* and going on from letter to letter till he comes to the particular one required; he is told to do so; he finds the name of the letter he wanted; he is then asked if he should forget the name of that letter could he find it out again; he says yes, won't the one way always serve him. The alphabet running in hori-

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MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

zontal lines, and the letters being at regular distances from each other, vertical columns are formed. The first of these columns, which consists of five letters, *a, g, m, s, y,* is then given to him as a task to be mastered in his cell. He asks how is he to get it off, when he has no one in the cell to teach him. This question is answered in the following manner:—the *a* is pointed at; he knows that; *g* is pointed at next; a stop; he does not know; he is told to find it out; he goes to *a*, then to *b*, then to *c*, and so on till he comes to *g;* the *m* is next pointed at; the same answer as before, followed by another march from *a* to *m;* the others are found out by *himself* in the same way. This process is, to a man ignorant of the alphabet, what the operation of searching in a dictionary is to an educated person; and accompanied by nearly similar advantages—sharpness, quickness, and self-dependence. The following day the prisoner has his task well off, and probably the next one to it, just to show how much he could do; and right proud he feels of his achievement.

It is with reluctance I have given these details; but I considered I should be doing the prison an injustice not to show how time—always so valuable—may be spent with profit, even by men backward as prisoners generally are.

Upon my recommendation, your Board, gentlemen, were pleased to sanction the erection of a sort of stage or school gallery for the purpose of affording more suitable accommodation for simultaneous instruction, on a larger scale, to the juvenile prisoners. The work has been executed by a class of juveniles, consisting of four, under the instruction of the carpenter warder. As a plain, substantial, and inexpensive piece of workmanship, it reflects credit both upon the boys and their instructor. This increased accommodation in the school-room has been attended, as anticipated, with profitable results. Hitherto each juvenile attended school three hours every alternate evening; now each juvenile attends, in addition to this, one hour on each of the other alternate evenings. Besides the advantage of the time which has been gained to the school, without entrenching upon any other department, there are other benefits secured of equal importance. The simultaneous instructions are now much more effective than heretofore, owing to three causes, viz.:—1st, the concentration of the pupils; 2nd, the presence of all instead of half the class at each lesson; and 3rd, the "sympathy of numbers."

The efficiency of the school was brought to the test upon two occasions, in addition to the ordinary examinations of the Inspector. The Lord Lieutenant, shortly after His Excellency's return to Ireland the second time as Viceroy, had the prisoners examined before him. Mr. Cardwell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, and Major-General Larcom, C.B., Under Secretary, had, upon a later occasion, the prisoners examined before them in the same manner. Upon each of these occasions, gentlemen, one or more members of your Board had been present, and therefore are fully aware of the satisfaction afforded by the answering of the classes examined.

The industrial portion of the training of the juvenile prisoners—with the adults I have nothing in that way to do—has steadily progressed. I take every opportunity, in the school-room, to impress upon them the advantages of industry; how it promotes health; how it is the only way to wealth; and how it is impossible to attain to happiness without it. I inspect them at their work to see are my instructions turned to any account in practice. It affords me great pleasure to be enabled to report as favourably of their industry in the workshop as their industry in the school-room. There are exceptions to every general rule; but the exceptions in this case being so few that, when compared with the number forming the rule, they sink into insignificance, especially when the fact that the number is daily diminishing is taken into consideration.

I have yet to deplore the disadvantage arising from the prevalence of short sentences, against which I, as one of the agents employed to work out the reformation of the criminal, have still to contend. It is a great drawback, in fact, it is no less than *working against time.* For the purpose of punishment a short sentence, even an hour, carries with it its own object; but, for the purpose of reformation, a short sentence—that is, a *sentence* under five years (according to the present scale of remissions, a sentence of five years involves a *certain imprisonment* of only four years)—is simply

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absurd; because the curative process is applied with about as much chance of success as the application of medical treatment for ten days, and then discontinued, upon a patient suffering from a twenty-one days' fever. The young, even more so than the old, paradoxical as it is, stand in need of very lengthened periods of detention. I entertain grave doubts of the well-doing of a youth, no matter how long or how judiciously treated, when I see him discharged under the age of eighteen years; therefore, the detention of a juvenile, for the purpose of *reformation*, should be so long as to bring his age at least up to that point. It is a mistake to regard punishment as inseparable from detention in the case of every prisoner. Criminals who yield to the curative process feel very little punishment after passing, by their own exertions, through the penal stages of discipline, except merely the confinement of the prison. The case is different with the others, who, not exerting themselves, are left back in the first stages; and surely such prisoners are not legitimate objects of sympathy. I have always regarded it as almost cruelty to cast a young person at the tender age of fifteen, sixteen, or even seventeen years of age, out on the world to do for himself, for good or for evil, his own complete master, upon his own slender responsibility, and without that great mainprop to a youth, at the turning point of life, parental control and guidance, and pecuniary assistance in the hour of need. I would fain dwell at greater length upon this portion of my report, feeble as my efforts are; but space obliges me to be thus brief.

MOUNTJOY GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

I beg to record my best thanks, which I gratefully feel due, to the Governor, for the able manner in which he sustained me in the discharge of duties calling for his support during the past year.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

EDWARD M'GAURAN, Head Schoolmaster.

To the Chairman and Directors of
Convict Prisons in Ireland.

SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Directors' Report.

There is nothing defective to report upon in the state of repair and general condition of the buildings temporarily occupied for prison purposes in the forts at these several stations, or in the iron and wooden buildings specially erected for prison accommodation, as described in our last Report. The brick and stone building intended to be first used for the separate confinement of convicts requiring to be thus dealt with, and afterwards for a similar purpose for military offenders when Spike Island is given up as a convict prison, is approaching completion, and we hope may be occupied within the present year. The large reduction in the number of convicts at Spike Island has permitted the withdrawal of all the prisoners from one of the three large buildings which was lately occupied partly as an hospital. By some trifling alterations, effected by convict labour, satisfactory hospital accommodation has been obtained in one of the other buildings for both officers and prisoners; and the former building has been made available for the accommodation of families of subordinate officers. This arrangement (which has been duly sanctioned), is expected to prove of great advantage to the prison officers alluded to; as previously, from there being no accommodation for their families on the island, they were subjected to considerable expense and inconvenience in having to provide

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Directors' Report.

lodgings at Queenstown or elsewhere, and in crossing the water in all weathers going to and from their duties. A rent of one shilling a week is charged to each family allowed to occupy quarters in the above-mentioned building.

The conduct of the officers at each of these stations has been generally very satisfactory throughout the year. Some of the subordinate officers, who from age and infirmities have become unfit for the necessarily active duties of such an establishment, will be brought forward for discharge, and their places filled by officers who, though efficient, would otherwise have to be discharged from the service in consequence of the intended reduction of the staff of Philipstown Prison.

The general conduct of the convicts has been good, and the exceptions have arisen chiefly among prisoners of known bad and reckless character—the proportion of which class in the prison must be expected to increase, notwithstanding the general decrease in the total number of prisoners; the obvious causes being general longer detention of this class, increased sentences on re-conviction, and the necessity of returning even the worst class of prisoners after a time from separate confinement to association on public works.

The state of the convicts as to religion and morals is generally favourably described in the reports of the several Chaplains; and their attention and progress in the schools is favourably reported on by the Schoolmasters. Arrangements have been made, in consequence of the diminished number of convicts, by which the services of one of the Schoolmasters have been dispensed with; and from the unfailing zeal and attention of the Head Schoolmaster and his assistants, the requirements in school instruction at Spike Island and the Forts have been effectually provided for.

The employment of the convicts both at Spike Island and the Forts continue to be similar to those mentioned in our Reports of previous years, and may generally be comprised as labour on the public works, under the direction of the Royal Engineer Department, in fortifications and buildings at the above stations, and the necessary prison labour in and out of doors at Spike Island for the service of the establishment. The industry of the convicts at their several occupations has continued to be satisfactory throughout the year.

The general health of the convicts at Spike Island and the Forts has been satisfactory. The deaths have been six, and the total average number of prisoners has been 600. Of these deaths one was the result of an accident on the public works at Spike Island.

There has been no necessity for any alterations in, or additions to, the established rules during the period referred to in this Report.

The expenses of the prison have been only of the ordinary class, and call for no special remark. The items are given in the annexed Governor's Report, in which will also be found a statement of the earnings, or value of the productive labour of the prisoners within the year. The greater number of the prisoners being employed at labour which, from its nature, is incapable of actual measurement, the statement is to some extent an estimated one; but the prices included in it appear reasonable when applied to the work of men fairly occupied therein during the usual working hours of the day.

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Fort Camden still continues to be used as an Intermediate Prison, being chiefly supplied with prisoners from Fort Carlisle, at which latter station there are located only a convenient number of convicts in the advanced class, who have arrived thus far on their way to an intermediate prison. SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

There are no other matters connected with the discipline and management of these prisons requiring to be specially mentioned in this part of our Annual Report. *Directors' Report.*

WALTER CROFTON, *Chairman.*
JOHN LENTAIGNE, }
I. S. WHITTY, } *Directors.*

LOCAL INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Local Inspector's Report.

Spike Island Government Prison,
1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to forward the Annual Report of the Governor for the past year; I do not consider it necessary to make any observations upon it.

The conduct of the subordinate officers during the past year has been, generally speaking, very satisfactory; two officers, however, who were reported to you for serious misconduct, were dismissed the service.

The subordinate officers appear to be a highly respectable body of men.

With respect to the efficiency of the subordinate officers, the very great majority of them perform their duties in a satisfactory manner; but there are a few who appear unable to control the prisoners. Slackness in enforcing the discipline of the prison, on the part of any officer, renders it much more difficult for those officers who strictly do their duty to manage the prisoners. Should there be no improvement on the part of these officers in this respect, I shall feel it my duty to bring their cases to your notice. The discipline maintained in the prison has been good; during the summer months, however, the conduct of a few of the prisoners was bad, causing some assaults upon officers. This misconduct appears to have been chiefly confined to a certain set of prisoners, but occasionally the well-disposed were brought into trouble by the ill-disposed. More stringent treatment of the penal class, and the removal of a few badly disposed prisoners to other prisons, at once checked the misconduct; showing that the great majority of the prisoners were quite amenable to discipline. It is probable that a certain number of prisoners who have been well-behaved in separation, will, with every care, prove troublesome here, either from the additional temptations which of necessity occur in an associated prison, or because a badly disposed prisoner has more opportunities for misconducting himself in a prison circumstanced as is Spike Island.

The prisoners have been employed, as in former years, under the orders of the Royal Engineer Department, and in the necessary prison work; a party has also been sent daily, weather permitting, to Haulbowline, for employment in the public service.

The employment of prisoners in drawing trucks appears to me to be objectionable: from the nature of the work, a prisoner inclined to idle has greater facilities for doing so, and the prisoners being broken up into small parties, renders it difficult to insure a proper amount of supervision over the working parties; the amount of labour lost must also be very considerable.

The health of the prisoners has been remarkably good. The prisoners have attended school regularly during the past year. Great attention has been paid to their instruction by the Head Schoolmaster and his assistants.

Whilst discipline has been maintained, no severity or harshness has been used towards the prisoners. The general good conduct of the prisoners, and their desire, excepting in a few cases, to improve themselves in classification, appears to show that their treatment produces satisfactory results.

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Local Inspector's Report.

At Camden Fort, an intermediate prison, the prisoners have been employed, as at Spike Island, under the orders of the Royal Engineer Department. The conduct of the prisoners has been extremely good, they have been very industrious; I consider the amount of work done by them to be equal to that which would be expected from an equal number of paid labourers. In the great majority of cases, this good conduct and industry appears to be the result of great moral improvement; it is difficult otherwise to account for it, as the material advantages by which the ordinary class of prisoners are likely to be influenced are few—the dietary, for instance, is the same as at Spike Island, and the labour, if anything, of a more severe nature. I have little doubt but that the prisoners who have passed through this prison will generally endeavour to obtain an honest livelihood when discharged. Even in the few cases where a prisoner appeare to have conducted himself well, solely for the purpose of retaining the advantages of an intermediate prison, the habits of self-control so obtained can hardly fail to exercise a beneficial influence over him when he regains his liberty.

The prisoners located at Carlisle Fort are all belonging to the advanced class; their conduct and industry have been very good.

The conduct and efficiency of the officers of this prison have been most satisfactory, excepting in one case, where I found it necessary to report two officers to you.

The rules and regulations of this prison have been complied with excepting in such cases as I have brought to a Director's notice.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN BARLOW, Local Inspector.

To the Board of Directors, Irish Government Prisons,
Lower Castle Yard, Dublin.

Governor's Report.

GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

Spike Island Government Prison,
January 18, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit the following Report, together with the usual Financial and Statistical Returns for the year ended 31st December, 1859.

I do not deem it necessary to enter into lengthened details, as the same routine and the same system of treatment were observed as in previous years.

The general behaviour of the subordinate officers, I consider, has been creditable and satisfactory. The Chief Warder and Principal Warders have evinced their usual zeal during the year in promoting industry and maintaining order and discipline among the convicts.

The treatment of the prisoners has been in accordance with the established rules and regulations.

No change has taken place in the ordinary employment of the prisoners since my last Report; and, generally speaking, they have worked steadily and satisfactorily. The daily average number of prisoners employed on the Royal Engineer, Admiralty, and Ordnance Works, has been 418·405.

The buildings I consider are in a fair and satisfactory state of repair, and I am not aware of any alterations necessary at present. The prisoners' hospital has been recently changed to the B Building; and it is much more compact than before, being now under the same roof and adjoining to the surgery and hospital kitchen. The C Building, part of which was occupied as the hospital, is at present unoccupied; but the Directors very kindly and considerately have decided upon giving this building up to the married officers and their families, who reside off the island, a boon which I feel sure they will fully appreciate. The alterations necessary for their accommodation are now in progress. This indulgence to the subordinate officers gives me much pleasure, knowing the very great hardships they have endured, especially in winter, having to be on the island in all weathers from Queenstown and Ring by half-past five o'clock in the morning, then to perform their usual arduous duties during the day.

I am not aware of any abuses existing.

No attempt at escape has been made during the year.

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Governor's Report.

The attention of the prisoners at school has been, with few exceptions, very satisfactory, and I consider Mr. Harold, the Head Schoolmaster, and his Staff, have been very zealous in the discharge of their duties.

The conduct of the prisoners generally, and especially the tradesmen has been good. Some special cases have occurred in which the officers were assaulted, but the great majority of the offences were the acts of a limited number of individuals; and among so large a number of convicts employed out of doors, and in association, there will always be some who can only be coerced into order and obedience by the severest punishments.

In the month of October last an unprovoked attack was made on some of the officers on duty by five of the convicts employed on the Public Works, but they received no assistance from the other convicts present, some of whom went at once to the aid of the officers. In their case, and that of a limited few, coercive measures of a stringent nature were found to be absolutely required, and had to be resorted to; the effect was very salutary, and the entries in the "Misconduct Book" were soon greatly reduced in number.

I regret to say one prisoner met with an accident on the Royal Engineers' Works, which proved fatal after a few days—the only serious casualty which occurred during the year,

Captain Barlow, the Local Inspector, has rendered me every support and assistance.

I hereby certify that the rules laid down for the government of the prison have been complied with during the past year, except in such cases as have been reported to, or brought under the notice of a Director, or of the Local Inspector.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER HAY, Governor.

To the Chairman and Board of Directors,
Dublin Castle.

RETURN showing the CRIMES of 638 Convicts in Custody, December 31, 1859.

Murder,	21	Attempt to steal, and former conviction,	1
Shooting at,	2	Bigamy,	1
Conspiracy to Murder,	2	Bestiality,	5
Manslaughter,	22	Assaulting dwelling, and robbery of arms,	2
Stabbing and Wounding,	5	Coining and uttering base coin,	2
Grievous, felonious, and other assaults,	23	Cattle stealing and killing,	18
Assault and robbery,	8	Horse stealing,	7
Highway robbery,	13	Ass stealing,	5
Rape,	14	Pig stealing,	2
Administering poison,	1	Sheep stealing and killing,	17
Perjury,	3	Military offences,	19
Forgery and uttering,	4	Mutinous conduct, firing on Her Majesty's troops of the line,	3
Arson, and attempt at arson,	17	Prison breach,	2
Burglary and robbery,	67	Appearing armed at night, and attacking dwelling,	1
Burglary,	68	Writing, and posting threatening notices,	1
Housebreaking and robbery,	29	Being a member of an unlawful assembly,	1
Robbery,	19	Attempt to compel to quit, &c.,	2
Felony,	56		
Larceny,	100	Total,	638
Stealing from person,	43		
Receiving stolen goods,	25		
Obtaining goods under false pretences,	2		
Embezzlement,	1		
Sacrilege,	4		

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Governor's Report.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of CONVICTS in CUSTODY, committed and disposed of, for Year commencing 1st January, and ending 31st December, 1859, Forts Camden and Carlisle inclusive.

			HOW DISPOSED OF.		
1st January, 1859—			31st December, 1859—		
In custody, - - -		565	Remaining in custody, - -		638
Committed from—			Removed during the year to—		
Bermuda, - - -	91		Smithfield, - -	156	
Mountjoy, - - -	213		Philipstown, - -	30	
Philipstown, - -	101		Mountjoy, - - -	36	
Gibraltar, *via* Portsmouth, -	2		Dundrum Lunatic Asylum,	1	
		407	Discharged on commutation of sentence, - -	14	
			,, completion,	52	
			Released on Orders of Licence,	39	
			Died, - - -	6	
					334
Total, - -		972	Total, - -		972

RETURN showing the SENTENCES and AGES on CONVICTION of 638 Convicts in Custody, December 31, 1859.

SENTENCES.		SENTENCES.	
Three Years' Penal Servitude, -	79	Seven Years' Transportation, -	4
Four ,, ,, -	247	Ten ,, ,, -	20
Five ,, ,, -	4	Fourteen ,, ,, -	20
Six ,, ,, -	71	Fifteen ,, ,, -	44
Seven ,, ,, -	30	Twenty ,, ,, -	1
Eight ,, ,, -	14	Life ,, ,, -	51
Ten ,, ,, -	35		
Fourteen ,, ,, -	2		
Fifteen ,, ,, -	6		
Life ,, ,, -	10		
	498		140
Total, -	638		

AGES ON CONVICTION.

Under Twenty Years, - - - - -	183
Twenty and under Twenty-five, - - - -	222
Twenty-five and under Thirty, - - - -	127
Thirty and under Thirty-five, - - - -	40
Thirty-five and under Forty, - - - -	28
Forty and under Fifty, - - - - -	26
Fifty and under Sixty, - - - - -	11
Sixty and under Seventy, - - - - -	1
Total, - - - - -	638

[ABSTRACT.

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ABSTRACT ACCOUNT showing the ESTIMATED VALUE of the PRODUCTIVE LABOUR of the Prisoners, and the NUMBER EMPLOYED, during the year ending 31st December, 1859.

Trade or Occupation.	Daily Average number employed for 303 days.		Estimated Value of Work performed.	Total.
			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
PRISON WORK.				
Tailors,	14		530 5 0	
Shoemakers,	7		265 2 6	
Smiths and Nailers,	4		212 2 0	
Carpenters,	4		212 2 0	
Painters,	2		90 18 0	
Upholsterers, repairing Beds, &c.,	1		15 3 0	
Coopers and Tinmen,	1		30 6 0	
Labourers in Prison Garden, &c.,	26		656 10 0	
Washing in Laundry,	9		272 14 0	
Bakers,	6		272 14 0	
Cooks,	8		121 4 0	
Fatigue work, Cleaning, Messing, &c.,	36		545 8 0	
		118		3,224 8 6
ROYAL ENGINEERS' WORK.				
Carpenters and Sawyers,	9		477 4 6	
Smiths,	6		318 3 0	
Masons and Stonecutters,	52		2,757 6 0	
Labourers,	290		7,322 10 0	
		357		10,875 3 6
NAVAL AND WAR DEPARTMENTS.				
Labourers at Haulbowline,	42		1,060 10 0	
Picking Oakum on wet days (for Naval Stores),	19		143 18 6	
		61		1,204 8 6
		536		15,304 0 6

Daily Average Number at Work during the year,	536
,, ,, not at Work (at School, in Hospital, &c.),	64
Total Daily Average,	600

STATEMENT of the PRISON EXPENDITURE for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

	£ s. d.
Salaries,	7,205 14 1
Provisions, prisoners' and officers' rations,	5,440 4 4
Fuel and lighting,	778 0 1
Alterations and repairs of prison,	44 2 9
Contingencies,	318 19 5
Utensils and furniture,	39 12 2
Medicines and surgical instruments,	28 8 9
Medical comforts,	19 8 3
Gratuities to prisoners (Spike Island),	194 13 7
Clothing and travelling expenses of prisoners on discharge,	185 18 3
Prisoners' clothing,	1,908 6 10
Funeral expenses,	2 5 0
Laundry, washing for prisoners,	451 5 8
Soap and cleaning articles,	26 0 0
Officers' clothing (including waterproof clothing expected to continue in wear for some years),	665 18 9
Advertising,	21 17 0
	17,330 14 11
Deduct sales of pigs, garden produce, &c.,	125 17 3
Net expenditure of Spike Island Convict Prison,	17,204 17 8

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Medical Superintendent's Report.

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Spike Island Convict Prison,
January 14, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I beg leave to submit my report on the sanitary state of Spike Island Prison for the year 1859.

The snbjoined table gives a general view of the state of the hospital during the year.

Number of sick remaining in bospital on the 1st January, 1859, from the preceding year,	6
Number admitted since, to the 31st December, inclusive,	242
Total under treatment during the year,	248
Of these there were discharged from hospital,	234
Died,	6
Remaining in bospital, 1st Jannary, 1860,	8
Total,	248

The following table specifies the diseases with which the patients admitted to hospital dnring the year were affected:—

Febrile Affections,	20	Injuries and Contusions,	31
Catarrh,	20	Skin Disease,	11
Phthisis,	3	Erysipelas,	1
Asthma,	3	Hernia,	1
Hæmoptysis,	2	Anthrax,	2
Bronchitis,	10	Lupus,	1
Pleuritis,	5	Ulcers,	12
Pneumonia,	7	Abscess,	11
Tonsilitis,	4	Scrofula,	1
Dyspepsia,	6	Inflammation of Joints,	5
Heart Disease,	1	Hip Disease,	1
Liver Disease,	4	Fractures,	3
Constipation,	9	Lumbago,	1
Diarrhœa,	5	Inflamed Testicle,	1
Choleraic Diarrhœa,	1	Condyloma,	1
Dysentery,	6	Fistula in Ano,	1
Colic,	2	Stricture,	1
Piles,	2	Tumors,	1
Paralysis and Head Affections,	6	Varicose Veins,	2
Ear-ache,	1	Old Age and Debility,	4
Rheumatism,	10		
Opbthalmia,	23	Total,	242

Comparing this return with tbose of several preceding years, I find that there is nothing peculiar or unusual in the character of the diseases that prevailed.

The cases of ophthalmia have been fewer in number and more manageable; the febrile affections, as nsnal, of the mildest type. Most of the cases registered under the head "bronchitis" were little more than common colds, requiring a few days' rest in hospital and exemption from labour for their cure. The acute inflammations of the lungs and its covering, though not numerous, were severe. The casualties have been less in number, but in some instances of a serious nature. Tbe falling in of an embankment in one case caused a compound fracture of the thigh bone, and such a laceration of the soft parts and loss of blood, as to induce mortification and a fatal result.

Daily average number of extern patients,	22
Daily average number of prisoners in custody at Spike Island and the Forts,	600·687
Do. for the year 1858,	643·150
Daily average number of patients in hospital,	9·036
Do. for tbe year 1858,	11
Number of prisoners in cnstody, 1st January, 1859,	565
Number transferred to Spike Island during the year,	407
Total,	972

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The annexed table shows the ages, dates of conviction, of committal to Spike Island Prison, of admission to hospital, and of death, the length of time spent in hospital, and the diseases of the patients that died.

Number on the Register.	Initials of Name.	Age.	Date of Conviction.	Date of Committal to Spike Island.	Date of Admission to Hospital.	Date of Death.	No. of days in Hospital.	Disease.
					1859.	1859.		
10438	M. M.	22	Jan. 8, '58,	Dec. 6, '58,	July 9,	July 12,	3	Compound fracture left thigh bone, followed by mortification.
10637	M. D.	32	Oct. 14, '52,	May 7, '59,	July 18,	Aug. 9,	22	Phthisis.
10677	M. C.	24	Oct. 31, '54,	May 30, '59,	Oct. 10,	Oct. 12,	2	Scrofula and inflammation of the knee joint.
10616	J. C.	33	Jan. 8, '57,	Apr. 26, '59,	Oct. 3,	Oct. 15,	12	Stricture and low fever.
10211	C. C.	32	Mar. 11, '57,	Jan. 27, '58,	Sept. 1,	Nov. 28,	88	Atrophy of the liver.
10736	P. W.	20	Aug. 3, '58,	July 13, '59,	Dec. 13,	Dec. 23,	10	Inflammation of the lung and pleura.

Spike Island and Forts Camden and Carlisle Prisons.

Medical Superintendent's Report.

There is an increase in the mortality as compared with last year, the average per cent. being 1, that for the year 1858 somewhat less than $\frac{1}{2}$.

One lunatic was transferred from this prison to the Criminal Lunatic Asylum during the year.

With reference to the recent change in the hospital, I have to observe that it was desirable, and I have found it in many respects as convenient as it is suitable; but I regret to find that no provision has been made for the erection of a closet, without which it is impossible to preserve a perfectly pure and healthful state of the wards.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JEREMIAH H. KELLY, Medical Superintendent.

The Directors of Convict Prisons.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

Spike Island Government Prison,
January 11, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to present my report for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

During the past year I performed Divine Service fifty-five times; catechised prisoners eighty-two times; visited hospital twenty-six times; solitary cells twenty-one times; administered Holy Communion thrice; also visited prison school and hospital.

I have to report favourably on the conduct of the prisoners under my charge throughout this period, as the number of my visits to the cells prove, and to their general good behaviour on Sabbath and Lecture days; and have witnessed in those who received the Lord's Supper steady and exemplary conduct.

I beg to call the attention of the authorities to the state of the library as it at present exists, which I have already brought before their notice; and to request that the needed supply of useful works may be provided as soon as possible—in fact a new library supplied, the books on hand being so old and worthless. I need scarcely add how valuable an auxiliary it is to the Chaplain, and how dissatisfied the prisoners become without something to employ, I should hope, profitably, their spare hours. Thanking the authorities for their continued attention,

I have the honour to remain Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOSEPH G. BOUCHIER, Protestant Chaplain.

To the Directors of Government Prisons,
Castle, Dublin.

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Spike Island and Fort Camden and Carlisle Prisons.

Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Spike Island, January 1, 1860.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to present you with my report for the year ending 31st of December, 1859, which is my eleventh annual report as the R. C. Chaplain of this prison.

I beg to state that the most ample opportunities of moral and religious instruction, and of fulfilling their various religious obligations, have been afforded to the Roman Catholic prisoners here, during the year, by my very zealous reverend assistant and myself.

I am happy to be able to say that the majority of them have anxiously availed of our services, and have duly complied with all their religious duties. They have several times during the year prepared themselves to receive the Holy Sacraments with every appearance of sincerity and devotion.

But I regret to be obliged to state that I have found a large minority of them exceedingly perverse and indifferent to their religious obligations. My reverend assistant and myself have been unable, by our unceasing public and private exhortations, to influence them to comply with the necessary requirements of religion.

I believe this evil to be attributable to their having been long strangers to the practices and influences of religion, and to their having grown callous in the habits of crimes and re-convictions, as the larger proportion of returned convicts here at present amply testifies.

At the same time I must say, that they are not devoid of religious principle, for they partially attend to the minor duties of religion, and several of them are found, at length, to return to a better sense, and to become religious and correct, but it is generally after long incarceration, and unceasing religious instruction and admonitions on the part of the Chaplains.

I am therefore of opinion that such a sentence is necessary for this class of prisoners, as would defer to a very distant period their hope of returning to society. I think it would be a mercy to themselves, as it would check the demoralizing habit of their repeatedly passing from liberation to re-conviction, and it would forcibly tend to make them look for happiness in the peace of a good conscience, and in the enjoyments and blessings which religion affords, instead of continually occupying their thoughts with the hope of a proximate return to their sinful pleasures.

It is useless to expect that any discipline will succeed in reclaiming such prisoners in a short time; it may restrain them exteriorly, and induce them to conform to prison rules, under the hope of a speedy liberation, but it will not reach the heart and produce a permanent reformation.

This must be the work of time and the agency of religion. Secular teachings, on the principle of temporal motives, may be sufficient to influence and restrain a bad man already established in life, and under the reputation of honesty, but it will never succeed in inducing a convict, who has no reputation to lose, to change his heart, and subdue his evil propensities. This must be accomplished by religion, or it cannot be effected, as all experience has proved.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

T. F. Lyons, R. C. Chaplain.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

Assistant Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

ASSISTANT ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Spike Island, January 9, 1860.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour to submit my report for the year 1859.

I have pleasure in stating that the religious and moral conduct of a majority of the Roman Catholic prisoners in this convict depot during the past year has been highly satisfactory. I can bear testimony to their having diligently availed themselves of the opportunities afforded them to approach the sacraments regularly, and to their having assiduously discharged their other religious obligations. Their demeanour in chapel was always edifying; and in school, in their wards, or on the public works, their conduct was to all appearance most exemplary.

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Spike Island and Forts Camden and Carlisle Prisons.

Of a minority of the Roman Catholic prisoners, which, it must be said, formed a considerable number, I am bound to state, that although in nearly all cases they manifested an outward reverence for their religion, they however, through the year, entirely neglected to comply with the most important duties it imposes. Of this number, too, it is right to say, that some were very callous indeed, and very unwilling to listen to the admonitions or remonstrances of the Chaplains; while others, less hardened, would seem for the time to be benefited by the advice or admonition frequently given, but almost as frequently unavailing; because their good resolutions would not be proof against the force of long-contracted evil habits, or the pernicious example of their less scrupulous companions.

Assistant Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

It is worthy of remark, that in proportion to the gradual, and indeed rapid decrease, which has been taking place for some years past in the convict population of our prisons, the general character of the prisoners would appear to be growing worse; nor can this be deemed surprising when it is taken into account, that from a variety of well-known causes, the convict of but one crime—who represents a class invariably well conducted in prison, and always exercising, by their good example, no small amount of influence on the conduct of the others—is now becoming a rare person; and that, consequently, the field is being wholly left to the habitual criminals—to those who have made criminal pursuits their means and ways of living in the world. The number of returned convicts in Spike Island at present affords strong corroborative evidence of this truth.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

Daniel Finn, Assistant Roman Catholic Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Presbyterian Chaplain's Report.

Spike Island, Cork, January 10, 1860.

Gentlemen,—My report this year develops no new feature in prison discipline to demand particular notice.

The average number of Presbyterian prisoners under my superintendence has been from twenty-five to twenty-six, exclusive of warders and their families. The conduct of these men has been most exemplary; it is a very long time since one of them has been in the cells. The marked and earnest attention which they give to religious instruction is evident to all who witness it; but what is better, I *know* they have made very great progress in Christian knowledge, and I cannot but believe that very many of them are impressed with the value and importance of the practice of the great principles of Christianity, of love to God, and good will and kindness to their fellow-men.

I visit Spike Island, as usual, three times a week; but the extreme severity of the weather has prevented my visiting the Forts as often as I should have desired through the winter.

I have to express my entire approval of the general discipline of the prison, and my thanks to the Local Inspector and Governor, for their kindness and attention in affording me every facility in the discharge of my duties.

I beg, in conclusion, to draw your attention to the state of the prison library. The books are positively (with very few exceptions) all worn out.

I take the liberty of recommending a new set:

1st. Of "Chambers' Journal," from the beginning to the present day.

2d. "Chambers' Information for the People."

3d. "Chambers' Cyclopedia of English Literature."

I know of no works more free from religious and party bias, and more useful and practical for working people.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Charles B. Gibson.

To the Directors of Irish Government Prisons.

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Medical Officer's Report.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Fort Carlisle Convict Prison,
Jannary 10, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to suhmit the following hriof report of my duties during the past year:—

One hundred and thirty-seven cases were attended, and 276 prescriptions were issued and compounded, of which the suhjoined tahle gives a general view:—

Inflammatory Fever,	6	Injury of arm,	4
Bronchitis,	10	,, hip,	1
Catarrh,	17	,, foot,	3
Dyspepsia,	12	,, hand,	8
Diarrhœa,	10	Otitis,	1
Colic,	8	Scrofula,	7
Hernia,	4	Ulcers,	10
Hæmorrhoids,	4	Herpes Circinatus,	8
Catarrhal Ophthalmia,	3	Furunculus,	2
Pleurisy,	1	Abscess,	1
Lumbago,	10		
Psoriasis,	5	Total,	137
Injury of chest,	2		

A few accidents occurred on the works, and some cases of au urgent nature occurred hy night, all of which required, and received immediate attention.

I am happy to add that no epidemic, or infectious disease of any kind, has visited the prison during the past year.

I have the honour to he, Gentlemen, your most ohedient servant,

ROBERT BOYLE TRAVERS, M.R.C.S.E., Medical Officer,
Fort Carlisle Convict Prison.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Duhlin Castle.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Fort Carlisle, January 4, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to forward my report of this prison for the past year, which, I am happy to ohserve, hears the samo favourable testimony as those transmitted yon on the two former years, of the general conduct of the prisoners with whom I am professionally connected. Their numher, though increased since last year to meet the demands of the military authorities, has caused no change in the proper and quiet demeanour of the men—showing that the principle of mild treatment (little understood and less practised until recent times) is the true one to suhdue the refractory and improve the depraved. It is a Christian maxim and precept to "overcome evil with good."

The usnal duties of my office for the comfort and edificatiou of the inmates of the prison have heen punctually fulfilled during the year; divino worship celebrated every Lord's Day, and on Good Friday and Ascension Day; and also, Religious Instruction on ono other day in each week.

I repeatedly visited the school during the summer; it appears to be well and carefully attended to.

The same attention and facility to visit the prisoners have been shown me by Mr. Graham, the Superintendent, and the Warders, as I had the pleasuro of noticing on former occasions.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, your faithful and ohedient servant,

J. M. SHORTT, Protestant Chaplain.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Spike Island and Forts Camden and Carlisle Prisons.

Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

Aghada, January, 1860.

Gentlemen,—In compliance with your request, I send you my report for the past year on Carlisle Fort.

Owing to the peace and quiet that prevail at this intermediate penal station, I am spared the necessity of troubling you with a long report. There is no incident of annoyance or trouble to be noticed, nor any fault to be found by me with the superior class of convicts confined here, and over whom I have exercised spiritual care.

They have been at all times respectful and obedient, and most attentive to religious instruction. Even a casual observer might perceive that the men employed at the fortification works here exercise over themselves a moral and a manly control; and the state of the school shows that, old as they are, no small progress is being made by them in intellectual acquirements. A future day, I trust, will prove, that the pains thus bestowed on their correction and improvement are as useful as they are humane and charitable.

On every Sunday, and on every Holyday of obligation in our Church, Mass has been celebrated for them at the Fort. Generally, too, a clergyman has visited there on every Friday for the purpose of imparting spiritual advice and instruction, and to afford those who would desire it, an opportunity of going to confession. I and my reverend assistants have had the satisfaction of finding many of them, under the influence of God's grace, earnestly preparing themselves by Penance to approach the Holy Eucharist.

It is unnecessary to say, in conclusion, that from the Superintendent, Mr. Graham, from the Warders, and from all others connected with the Fort, we have always experienced courtesy and attention.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Richard Smindy, Roman Catholic Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

Camden Fort, January, 1860.

Gentlemen,—I have the honour of presenting my annual report.

Divine Service has been performed every Sunday morning throughout the year, and also on Christmas Day and Good Friday for the Protestant convicts at Camden Fort. There has also been a short service usually in the afternoon once during the week. This latter service I have omitted on four or five occasions, through illness and absence from home on particular business.

At these different services, I am happy to say, all the Protestant convicts, both the members of the United Church of England and Ireland and the Presbyterians, constantly attended.

Besides these duties I have seen and consulted separately nearly all the prisoners under my special care.

In these interviews I have observed, on the part of many, calm judgment and sober reflection, giving the impression that the prisoner was weighing prudently what his future course of action should be. I have heard from many of those coming under my charge the resolution quietly, yet firmly expressed, of never being found in a like position. From these things we may venture to expect that the wise determination will be accomplished. We may also admire the system which does not altogether bruise the prisoner's hope and self-respect, but excites him, and gradually brings him to the occasion and time when he may act upon them.

While there are solitude and arduous labour in the commencement of imprisonment, let there be instruction and the tastes of liberty towards the close of the prisoner's confinement. I must confess that I am an advocate for the most irk-

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

some and disagreeable sorts of occupations being put upon offenders against the law of God and society. If it were possible to devise some scheme for saving the sewage of our cities and towns, I would be inclined to make convicts the persons for doing the most vile and unpleasing part of the work.

In every plan of reformation let the laws and the teachings of conscience first be honoured, then let mercy fulfil her task.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

JOHN WHATELY.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Carrigaline, January, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—In supplying my report, as R. C. Chaplain to the Convict Prison at Camden Fort, for the year 1859, I have to premise that little or no variety exists in the materials that make up the report of one year and that of another, in consequence of the advanced class of prisoners that are sent hither.

The men in this prison are, almost without any exception, truly sorry for their past misdeeds, and prove themselves so by their conduct from the time they enter it till their departure, a circumstance which reflects the highest credit on the judicious discernment and practical experience of those on whom the duty of classification devolves.

I have, therefore, to renew the expression of my great gratification in bearing testimony to the steady good conduct of the prisoners during the year, and in particular as to what relates to the discharge of their religious duties—such as their edifying respect and reverence at the holy sacrifice of the Mass—the same regular reception of the sacraments of Penance and the Holy Eucharist, and the same marked attention to religious instruction.

It is gratifying also to record that the same good understanding between the officers and prisoners continues, and that the school is well conducted by the diligent and painstaking teacher, Mr. T. Ryan.

In short, good order, great quietness, and perfect discipline have been in harmonious operation during the year.

To Mr. Campbell, the Superintendent, and the other Warders, I beg to offer my best thanks for their prompt and willing disposition to meet every wish and suggestion of mine, or of my reverend assistant.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

JOHN J. CROWE, R. C. Chaplain.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

HEAD SCHOOLMASTER'S REPORT.

Fort Carlisle, January 9, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—In my reports for the past years I detailed to you the system pursued, and I made such suggestions as I conceived would further the great object you have in view, viz.—the imparting of literary instructions, not merely for their intrinsic value, but also as a very efficient agency in the moral reformation of the convicts. So fully have I investigated all the bearings and influences of the education imparted in our schools here, that there now remains very little original to be conveyed, except the statistics of the schools for the year.

Agreeably to your order, a short time previous to this year, my course of action was changed by my removal to Carlisle Fort from Camden Fort Intermediate Prison, where a deserving and eligible class enjoys some privileges for a short time previous to their discharge, which they do not receive here, this being but an ordinary prison, so far as privileges are concerned, but *intermediate* in its

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effects as the removal hence from Spike Island is a necessary step to the goal of liberty. This is likewise a place well suited to test the sincerity of previous progress, as, from the limited number, the officers in charge are intimately acquainted with their real characters, consequently an unworthy prisoner seldom reaches Camden Fort, for this station is an obstacle to such persons—it is a desert in miniature in which they would rather not sojourn, but would prefer entering immediately from Spike Island into the "Land of Promise," as they very aptly designate Camden Intermediate Prison. It is, therefore, no marvel if many, in the course of the year, have been sent back to Spike Island, and subjected to chastisement there. But they were chiefly low-minded persons, who lacked the moral courage necessary for overcoming the difficulties of the journey, and like the Israelites of old, who wished to return to Egypt, they were not as guarded in conduct as those who appreciated the advantages to be forfeited by a retrograde step.

SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

From the undeviating resolution and impartial decisions of Captain Barlow, the Local Inspector, and the strict but tolerant and judicious discipline of Mr. Graham, the principal warder, the slightest offence has incurred the penalty of removal, and this has produced beneficial effects. 1st. It has prevented imposition, by being the means of distinguishing real improvement from that which is only apparent; and as the returned prisoner in every instance was passed through a further probation and preparation, and not discharged until sent here again, and hence to Camden Fort, I have found men so tried much improved in conduct. 2nd. It has been productive of good to these prisoners, for if let pass through this place without the necessary qualifications, they would be liable to a greater fall, and not unlikely to be degraded in Camden. 3rd. It has acted as a deterrent on the *main* number, by creating a wholesome fear, and thereby contributed to keep them right.

Though I appreciate firmness and inflexibility in officers who are only disciplinarians, as they have to deal with the prisoners physically, yet, in the teachers, who are and should be moralists, both by word and example, and who have to address themselves to the finer feelings of human nature, a milder, more conciliatory, and persuasive tone is required. Teachers must consider that the crimes of the men whom they are instructing and endeavouring to reclaim, have arisen from the want of early teaching and training in righteousness; from inveterately vicious habits; from the want of a due consideration of their duties to God and man; from strong passions in which they believe they have a right to indulge, and from the absence of any fixed principle on which to rely as a counterpoise or equivalent for their self-denial in giving up those loose habits and that sensual kind of life they had been accustomed to lead. With this view of the prisoner before him, and convinced of the power of example, the teacher should bear with the defects of those men, and show them that though he has been at times constrained to report them for acts of obstinacy or disobedience, which seldom occurs, yet he practises himself that forgiveness and forbearance which he is daily and hourly inculcating both by oral and written instructions. I have conformed to this practice, and so have my assistants; and this course has secured for our instructions more attention, and for our characters personally more real respect than if through fear or other motives a greater deference were affected.

I have not altered my opinion, as stated in my former reports, that religion is the only sure basis of reformation, and that the mind in whom there does not exist some spark of the fear of God is certainly unreformed, and very unlikely to become a good member of society either in or out of prison. I cannot agree to what has been asserted, that the great mass of mankind are restrained from crime by mere temporal motives; it would be a dangerous concession to materialism; and, in justice to the unimprisoned community, I think it can be fairly stated, that though they may not appear religious, for this would be ostentatious, yet it is the fear of the Lord and his Divine law that regulate their actions. Ignore this principle and I, for one, would have little confidence in society, and would, if possible, fly from amongst them to some other region where I might expect to find it. In justice, also, to *imprisoned* society, I can safely state that *this principle* is the great deterrent, and that it prevails more than might at first be considered; for though our prisoners may have formed false notions, false consciences, perverse opinions, and long and obstinate prejudices, there are very few of them devoid of some embers of the fear of God,

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

which, when fanned and fed by the ministry of their pastors, are a surer ground for future good conduct than any temporal motive whatsoever. I have been a careful observer of the actions of the prisoners generally, and of those in this prison in particular, and I have beheld a few instances of persons in whom there was a total absence of religious influence, yet an apparent attention to rule and order; but this duplicity and cunning was unable to sustain its possessors, consequently they relapsed, and were sent back to Spike Island; not so with those who were possessed of even the faintest glimmerings of religion; they have been improved, and afford strong assurances of future good; numbers of them have passed on to Camden Fort, to Smithfield, and Lusk, and the residue are here still affording every satisfaction.

In consequence of an increased demand for labour in the engineering department here, your standing order was suspended, as I have been informed; and from the 4th to the 18th of April thirty men were sent here who had not served the usual time in the several grades of conduct in Spike Island. Their distaste for instructions, and the absence of those good features which characterized the *parties* sent here in due course, presented a striking contrast. I was sadly mortified to behold all exertions for their improvement almost fruitless, and I was beginning to despair of progress, when, about the 1st of September, half a dozen men were sent here who are truly exemplary. These immediately attended to their Christian duties; their good example and advice, with their avowed disapprobation of evil doings and evil-doers, have had a greater effect in weaning the former party from their evil ways than any other agency that has been employed for their reclamation. It is now cheering to behold the change for the better in the conduct of all. A proof more convincing than *this* need not be adduced of the salutary results of your system of classification and promotions, of your intermediate prisons, and of the beneficial effects of religious influence.

The literary instructions imparted in the several schools, viz.—the day school in Spike Island, the evening school in Spike Island, and the two evening schools in Carlisle and Camden Forts, chiefly embrace reading, with explanation, writing, arithmetic, geography, writing from dictation, and mental arithmetic; but these instructions are generally accompanied by conversational lectures on the subjects which occur in the reading lessons, which are so compiled as to be entirely at variance with the preconceived opinions and habits of the convicts, and consequently call forth all the energies and abilities of the instructors to remove those prejudices, in order to render the lessons effective, and to enforce the social morals and loyal duties which they inculcate. On my first acquaintance with the repugnance of prisoners to the upright course dictated by our school-books, I thought I could remove the evil at once by strong arguments, but I now find that this must be a work of some time and constant labour—that these perverse notions are gradually dissipated as the prisoners advance in moral progress, and that the constant reading and inculcating of righteous principles, though sometimes received with seeming indifference and even disapprobation, make way into their hearts and obtain a footing there that I had not expected. In the evening schools, to which none are eligible but those of the "Advanced (Conduct) Class" short, useful, and instructive lectures are given on Agriculture, Moral and Social Duties, Emigration, Temperance, Education, and several other subjects too numerous to be detailed.

All who have not been physically or mentally incapacitated have made a satisfactory progress in the course of the year, as a glance at the statistical tables will show; the first or spelling-class in all the schools being now reduced to twenty, and these are aged persons, rendered incapable by defective sight, dejection of spirits, or mental imbecility. The conduct at school has been good, except in the instances of two individuals who offered some violence to the warder in charge.

During the month of October, Edward Sheehy, Esq., Inspector of National Schools, devoted four days to the examination of the schools, and the intelligence displayed by the men in general, and the cheerfulness and earnestness with which all, except a few, answered, afforded evidence of care and ability on the part of their teachers. I think I may fairly presume that he has made a favourable report; and I am warranted in coming to the conclusion, as no copy of it has been forwarded to me for my explanations, yet it would be a vain assumption to assert that a further degree of improvement would not be desirable,

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and that the Inspector did not need making some suggestions which, if he has made, I would be most anxious to learn in order to comply with them.

SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

In consequence of the resignation of one of the teachers, and of the decision not to fill up the vacancy, our staff has now been reduced to *four*, which is scarcely sufficient for 597 men; and as the attendance in the day school in Spike Island is large, I attend there three days, sometimes four, in the week. I teach during the day, and return to my own school in Carlisle in the evening. Mr. Ryan, also, in compliance with your order of the 19th of October last, attends two days in Spike Island, and returns each evening to his own school in Camden. It is but due to him to say that he has devoted his energies and abilities to the improvement of the men under his care, and that success has attended his exertions. Mr. M'Cartan and Mr. Purcell, in Spike Island, continue to labour with the same earnestness that I reported on former occasions, and have even increased their labours in order to fill up the blank occasioned by the resignation of the aforesaid teacher. During the evening school in the D. Prison, in Spike Island, and whilst Mr. Purcell (the teacher in charge of it) has to instruct an average over one hundred, Mr. M'Cartan, the other teacher, visits the other prisons in due order for an hour, and assists those who are disposed to avail themselves of his attention. It will be seen that from the constant day and evening duties imposed on each and every one of us, the teacher's office in Spike Island and the Forts is no sinecure.

The results of the examinations of several parties admitted from different prisons during the year, prove that greater improvement has been made in our Irish Convict Prisons than in Bermuda or other remote places.

In Carlisle Fort school Mr. Graham, the principal warder, whose aid is valuable, and two of the warders efficiently assist me in teaching every evening.

Herewith I forward the statistics and reports of the schoolmasters on their respective schools.

I am, Gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

MICHAEL HAROLD, Head Schoolmaster.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons.

STATISTICS of FORT CARLISLE SCHOOL for 1859.

Classes.	On Books, on 31st. December, 1858.	Admitted during the year.	Total.	Sent to Camden and Spike.*	Remaining on 31st December, 1859.	Total.
READING—						
First Book, - -	1	7	8	4	1	5
Second Book, - -	6	17	23	17	6	23
Sequel, - - -	—	20	20	7	9	16
Third Book, - -	10	50	60	24	12	36
Fourth and Fifth Books,	18	55	73	68	36	104
Total, -	35	149	184	120	64	184
WRITING—						
On slates, - - -	1	18	19	3	1	4
Large-hand, - -	3	15	18	16	6	22
Small-hand, - -	31	116	147	101	57	158
Total, -	35	149	184	120	64	184
ARITHMETIC—						
Making figures, - -	2	22	24	13	5	18
Simple rules, - -	17	62	79	60	24	84
Componnd rules, -	3	18	21	10	9	19
Proportion, and above,	13	47	60	37	26	63
Total, -	35	149	184	120	64	184

* 22 sent to Spike for punishment—2 to attend to trades, 1 to infirmary, 95 to mden; total, 120: 3 of the 22 have returned to Carlisle.

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SPIKE ISLAND AND FORTS CAMDEN AND CARLISLE PRISONS.

Assistant Schoolmasters' Reports.

ASSISTANT SCHOOLMASTERS' REPORTS.

Spike Island Government Prison,
January 5, 1860.

SIR,—In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter of the 19th ultimo, I now forward a report of the school under my charge, together with the statistics for the year 1859.

To you, who have had frequent and ample opportunities of witnessing the successful working of this school, a report from me might be deemed unnecessary; but, in order that the Directors and others interested in the moral training and improvement of our convicts may be able to form a clear view on this subject, I will nevertheless make a few observations in illustration of the management of this branch of the establishment.

The course of instruction pursued, and the time allowed for each prisoner at school, have been the same as in the previous year, with this exception, that the morning classes come to school at a quarter to nine o'clock instead of half-past seven, as formerly—a change which took place in September last. The shortness of the time that many of the prisoners remain under my charge after admission, precludes the possibility of giving them much credit for improvement; for instance, of those received from Philipstown and Bermuda, many reach the advanced class soon after their arrival, and are, consequently, removed from this school to the D. Prison, or other destinations. It is, however, gratifying to observe, as will appear by the statistics, that the standard of classification is higher than it has been at any former period—a proof that our exertions in the good work have not been entirely fruitless.

The teaching powers have been greatly diminished here, in consequence of the resignation of one of our staff in September last; and though arrangements have been made to secure the attendance of Mr. Ryan, from Fort Camden, on two days in the week, yet his services fall far short of the assistance rendered by a teacher who was constantly on the spot, and whose whole time and attention were given to the improvement of the prisoners under his charge. As it is of the utmost importance to keep every prisoner constantly employed when in school, I have had the assistance of monitors selected from the best conducted and best informed men. These I placed over classes under my own immediate supervision, and which I have myself taken charge of occasionally, in order that I might be satisfied with their improvement and attention to business.

I have continued to visit and instruct the prisoners in their wards and cells every evening after lock-up. In the ward cells I find that, with few exceptions, the men, in all cases wherein self-improvement is practicable, are in the habit of earnestly applying themselves to reading of some useful description, or the study of arithmetic—a disposition not at all so general among the inmates of the wards. In my visits to the latter I find, too often among the prisoners, the effect of association appearing to destroy the industrious habits for which they were, I might say, remarkable while in the cells.

The library provided for the use of the prisoners is nearly worn out, being upwards of nine years in constant circulation. The few volumes now available are entirely inadequate to meet the demands upon them, and treat of subjects but ill adapted to the class of men for whom they were originally intended.

Generally speaking, the conduct of the prisoners in school, and their attention to business, have been very satisfactory, the number of punishments for insubordination, and other breaches of school discipline, being below the average. There occurred, indeed, two cases of gross and unprovoked assaults upon the school warder; on these occasions the timely arrival of assistance completely restored order.

On the 30th of September, E. Sheehy, Esq., Inspector of National Schools, visited and examined some of the classes in attendance in reading, writing from dictation, grammar, geography, and arithmetic. The answering of many of the men on the above subjects was very creditable, considering that it was the lowest division of each of the classes which was subjected to examination.

In conclusion, I think it right to state that I have, to the best of my ability, endeavoured to carry out the instructions given by you from time to time for the management of this school.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS M'CARTAN.

Mr. M. Harold, &c., &c., &c.

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STATISTICS of SPIKE ISLAND PRISON DAY SCHOOL, for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

Classes.	On Books, on 31st December, 1858.	Registered during the year 1859.	Total.	Removed during the year, including discharges.	Remaining on 31st December, 1859.	Total.
READING—						
First Book,	19	35	54	27	13	40
Second Book,	62	62	124	46	51	97
Sequel,	61	53	114	51	67	118
Third Book,	115	113	228	136	118	254
Fourth Book,	107	133	240	122	129	251
Total,	364	396	760	382	378	760
WRITING—						
On slates,	40	57	97	46	37	83
Large-hand,	30	51	81	40	42	82
Small-hand,	294	288	582	296	299	595
Total,	364	396	760	382	378	760
ARITHMETIC—						
Making figures,	24	70	94	67	40	107
Simple rules,	198	197	395	137	156	293
Compound rules,	76	55	131	85	96	181
Proportion,	23	34	57	19	16	35
Practice, &c.,	43	40	83	74	70	144
Total,	364	396	760	382	378	760

Average ages of prisoners in each of the classes:—

First Class,	33·3 years.
Second Class,	29·3 ,,
Sequel,	26·86 ,,
Third Class,	24·53 ,,
Fourth Class,	25 ,,

It is to he observed that all the convicts received here during the year are not included in the number admitted to this school; many of them were in the Advanced Class on reception, and were consequently removed to the D. Prison, or to the Forts; and of 35 received from Mountjoy, on the 22d Decemher last, none were admitted before the close of the year. Of 396 registered, 173 were from Mountjoy, 92 from Philipstown, 82 from Bermuda, 48 from the Advanced Class (which they forfeited by misconduct), and 1 from Gibraltar.

THOMAS M'CARTAN.

D. Prison, Spike Island,
January 2, 1860.

SIR,—In forwarding yon the statistics of the D. Prison for the year ended 31st ultimo, I heg to say that it affords me much pleasure to express my unqualified approbation of the conduct of the convicts in my charge during the period in question. The table indeed exhibits twenty-eight cases of forfeiture of privilege; but all these arose from transgressions which took place outside the school-room, in which a single act meriting a reprimand has at no time come under my notice.

The effect of the indulgence, by which a well-conducted prisoner can now reach the intermediate prisons at an earlier period of his sentence than that formerly prescribed, has been lately so considerable as to render the stay of a large per centage of this year's admissions of hrief duration here, and, of course, the progress in such circumstances was proportionably small; but in those

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instances in which the period of detention extended to any length, the majority of the prisoners have made themselves familiar with many branches of useful knowledge.

I have in no way modified the system of instruction sketched in my last report; but I must observe, that in working it out it is very difficult to keep so many men well in hand. "Bisogna vegliare sopra ogni cosa, essere informato di tutto, ma corregger con discrezione, e moderatezza, e dissemular molte cose, ma remedarvi."

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

P. C. PURCELL.

Mr. M. Harold.

STATISTICS of the D. PRISON SCHOOL, SPIKE ISLAND, for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

Classes.	On Register 31st December, 1858.	Admitted during 1859.	Total.	Removed, discharged, &c., during the year.	Remaining on Register 31st December, 1859.
READING—					
First Book,	5	18	23	11	6
Second Book,	7	20	27	16	6
Sequel Book,	12	37	49	20	17
Third Book,	26	99	125	104	27
Fourth and Fifth Books,	44	110	154	119	52
Total,	94	284	378	270	108
WRITING—					
On slates,	10	49	59	36	13
Large-hand,	6	31	37	27	6
Small-hand,	78	204	282	207	89
Total,	94	284	378	270	108
ARITHMETIC—					
Making figures,	–	21	21	9	8
Simple Rules,	59	118	177	124	45
Compound Rules,	12	66	78	54	22
Proportion, and above,	23	79	102	83	33
Total,	94	284	378	270*	108

Fort Camden Intermediate Prison,
January 9, 1860.

SIR,—I beg to hand you my report on Camden School for the year 1859.

For the past three years and a-half I have watched with interest that gradual spread of education amongst the prisoners which, I was sure, would attend the well-devised system of instruction introduced by the Directors. I have noted as accurately as possible, its progress, year after year, and am now in a position to show results which at first, though sanguine, I could not hope to anticipate. The system is daily developing itself, and producing fruits which, even to those unacquainted with the difficulties that beset its inauguration and early progress, must appear of a gratifying and very cheering nature. In corroboration of this statement I have only to refer to the present satisfactory state of our educational statistics, and to request a comparison of them with those of 1855, when the system was first introduced. From this comparison, the progress of education will be most evident, as well as the appreciation it has met with from men who,

* Viz., 148 to Fort Carlisle, 38 to Fort Camden, 2 to Philipstown, 4 to Dublin, 49 discharged, 27 degraded, and 2 died.

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at the commencement, set their faces against all improvement, on the notion (to use your own words) that education was a special gift from the Government to prepare them for the army and navy. This achievement has not been the work of one or two teachers, but the work of all combined; and the prisoners, even at this stage of their confinement, cherish the recollections of their first teachers, and feel grateful for the efforts made to lead them on in the path of knowledge.

Assistant Schoolmasters' Reports.

The following table, which has been prepared from the statistics appended to this report, and from those published with the reports on Camden School for the years 1857-58, exhibits at one view the progress of education on discharge from this depot for the last three years. I would have included 1856, but I had not the Directors' Report by me for that year. The results shown in the table will be further augmented during the time the prisoners are detained in Smithfield and Lusk. About 90 per cent. of the prisoners discharged from this place go to the two latter depots, where they remain for periods varying from one to ten months.

	Per Centages.		
	1857.	1858.	1859.
READING—			
Able to read our highest class-book, or in fact any book of English literature, - - - - - -	46·5	50·2	63·5
Able to read a prayer book, or any book of ordinary information; and to understand the meanings of the words,	16·4	25·7	17
Able to read an easy book of instruction, and those not so far advanced, - - - - - - -	37	24	19·5
WRITING—			
Able to write in a fair legible small-hand, from dictation, any passage selected from our Lesson Books, - -	46·5	50·2	63·5
Able to write in small-hand, from dictation, easy sentences,	16·4	25·7	17
Able to write small-hand from copy-lines, - -	81·5	88·4	90·4
ARITHMETIC—			
Able to work Proportion and above, or to solve any question that would occur in the ordinary course of business,	23	25	36
Able to perform calculations in the Compound Rules of Arithmetic, commonly called "Short Accounts," -	11·5	15·4	13
Able to work sums in the first four rules of Arithmetic, and those not so far advanced, - - - - -	65·3	57	50

The value of the foregoing statistics may be better appreciated by a comparison with the following extract from the Report of the Inspectors-General of Irish Prisons for the year 1858, which extract affords a fair outline of the education of the prisoners on entering the Convict Prisons. Here are their words: "As to the state of education of the prisoners on committal, there has been scarcely any change in the last two years; the improvement observable in the males in this respect in 1857 not having progressed, and, on the other hand, the females not having retrograded, as was the case in 1857. Of the males committed in 1858, 37 per cent. could read and write well, and 35 per cent. were wholly illiterate; of the females, only 15 per cent. could read and write well, whilst no less than 52 per cent. of them were wholly illiterate." None of the prisoners discharged from this prison were wholly illiterate. Of those discharged during the past year, 80·5 could read and write, 49 per cent. could work practice, proportion, and the compound rules, and the remainder could read and write a little, perform calculations in the first four rules of arithmetic, and had some knowledge of many important educational subjects.

The short time I had been in charge of this school previous to writing my last report prevented me from supplying any valuable information respecting its management in that document; but there was no necessity that I should do so, as you were acquainted with all particulars yourself, which you ably detailed in your report to the Directors. The mode of conducting the school for the year

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just expired will be understood from the following routine, approved of by yourself:—

	From 5 to 5½ o'clock.	From 5½ to 6½ o'clock.	From 6½ to 7 o'clock.
Monday, - -	Simultaneous Lesson.	Arithmetic.	Reading, Spelling, and Explanation.
Tuesday, - -	Simultaneous Lesson.	Writing.	Geography, political and descriptive.
Wednesday, -	Simultaneous Lesson.	Dictation.	Reading, Spelling, and Explanation.
Thursday, - -	Simultaneous Lesson.	Writing.	Grammar, with roots, or rules for spelling.
Friday, - -	Simultaneous Lesson.	Arithmetic.	Reading, Spelling, and Explanation.
Saturday, - -	Simultaneous Lesson.	Writing.	Mental Arithmetic.

NOTE A.—The subject of the simultaneous lesson comprises mathematical geography, history, agriculture, emigration, the atmosphere, or some other subject of general information.

NOTE B.—On Wednesday evening, from 5½ to 6½ o'clock, the first and second classes are engaged at arithmetic; and on Thursday evening, from 6½ to 7 o'clock, the same classes are employed at reading and spelling.

From the above table it will be seen, that while the most important subjects occupy the greatest attention, the other branches that form an essential part of a liberal education have not been neglected. This extension of the school-routine affords a pleasing variety, and a relief from that close attention to the more important subjects which is necessary for their acquisition, besides supplying many of the more advanced prisoners with a class of instruction which they are desirous to possess. With no class of men is the desire for change more excessive than with prisoners: they like shifting from one prison to another, as they fancy the change serves to shorten the remaining portion of their detention; they like a variety in their manual labour, though it should be a change from easy work to hard; and they like a variety in their lessons, as it makes the school time pass more quickly and agreeably; and if this variety in the school is not afforded, their attention cannot be kept up.

Last year I reported most favourably of the attention of the prisoners to their school business; this year I can speak from a more extended experience, and reiterate the statements then put forward. The prisoners whose progress was least apparent were those of the first and second classes. It will be seen, for instance, from the table at the end of this report that there were twelve prisoners admitted in the first class during the year, which, with two in that class at its commencement, made fourteen. Out of this number ten were discharged in same class, thereby showing a very small proficiency. But this is easily explained—a good many of these men were only in the alphabet on coming here, and though they applied themselves with uncommon industry, they were not qualified for removal to a second book before their time came round for transfer to Dublin. A few were unable to take any part in the school business, on account of impaired vision, or some other physical defect, while another portion were so disheartened at coming here with such little education that they gave over the idea of being able to acquire any; and it was only to please me that they applied themselves at all. Still all who could use their books made a fair progress, and I feel assured they were not long in Smithfield or Lusk before they were fit for removal to a second book. Of the men admitted in the second book, several were only fit for first, and were only placed in it to encourage them to work on, hence it would take a longer time than four months (the average period of detention here) to prepare them for this book, not to speak of advancing them to a higher; but like those in the first class, they made a satisfactory progress, as did all the classes.

The school was examined by E. Sheehy, Esq., Inspector of National Schools, on the 12th October last, on which occasion you were present; and though the

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prisoners were severely tested, from eleven o'clock, A.M., till four, P.M.,—the dinner hour excepted—they acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner. If there were any thing more than another that contributed to my satisfaction on that occasion, it was the disposition manifested by the prisoners to answer what they knew. It is not necessary for me to acquaint you with the result of this examination, nor to observe that the state of the school at that time furnished a fair sample of what it had been throughout the year.

It affords me much pleasure to be able to speak in terms of praise of the prisoners' conduct for the past year. There were only ten complaints amongst 215 prisoners; and these were either for insolence to officers or idleness on the works, and resulted in the removal of the offenders to Spike Island. This strict observance of discipline demonstrates very forcibly to the prisoners that the privileges attached to this prison can only be secured by straightforward and upright conduct. Of this stamp had been the conduct of the general mass—those punished being the exceptions; yet even amongst these were four whose offences were considered so slight that they were reinstated in their former privileges after a very short time. In school there was only one person who gave any trouble, but he was an old offender, who during his imprisonment had been nine times before the authorities for various acts of insubordination. With this single exception, the conduct of the prisoners in school had been most satisfactory; and they showed an amount of industry at their lessons that could hardly fail to satisfy any reasonable person, and, as a consequence, they shared largely in the instructions imparted.

By a late order from the Directors I visit Spike Island on alternate days with yourself, to assist in the management of the Day School. This arrangement, while securing to the prisoners at all their lessons, except writing, an equal amount of instruction to that which they before received, saves the public service the emoluments of one teacher.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

Mr. M. Harold, Head Schoolmaster. T. RYAN.

STATISTICS of FORT CAMDEN SCHOOL for the year 1859.

Classes.	Number of Prisoners on the Books on the 31st of December, 1858.	Number of Prisoners admitted to the School during the year, including four re-admissions.	Total.	Discharges during the year, including removals to Dublin, Spike Island, and those set at liberty.		Total.	Number of Prisoners on the Books on the 31st of December, 1859.
				Dublin.	Spike, &c.		
READING—							
First Class, - -	2	12	14	9	1	10	–
Second Class, -	12	27	39	22	2	24	6
Third Class, - -	12	33	45	25	3	26	11
Fourth Class, -	36	81	117	95	11	106	30
Totals, - -	62	153	215	151	17	168	47
WRITING—							
Letters, - -	3	21	24	11	2	13	3
Large-hand, - -	4	7	11	4	–	4	4
Small-hand, - -	55	125	180	136	15	151	40
Totals, - -	62	153	215	151	17	168	47
ARITHMETIC—							
Figures, - -	5	18	23	12	2	14	2
Simple rules, -	31	72	103	66	6	72	21
Compound rules, -	7	13	20	21	1	22	11
Proportion, - -	6	19	25	11	2	13	1
Practice and above,	13	31	44	41	6	47	12
Totals, - -	62	153	215	151	17	168	47

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PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Directors' Report.

PHILIPSTOWN PRISON.

The state of all the buildings in this prison is satisfactory, and nothing beyond ordinary repair is likely to be required for some time to maintain them in the same condition. The buildings at the front gate outside the boundary wall, erected by convict labour as quarters for the military detachment stationed at the prison, have been completed, with the additional modern improvements required in military barracks, and are reported ready for immediate occupation. The military detachment will thus be no longer stationed within the prison walls.

The conduct of the officers has been satisfactory, with but few exceptions.

The general behaviour of the convicts has been good. Among the prison offences there have been few of a serious nature, and those almost exclusively committed by individual prisoners of known bad character. Considering the large proportion of invalid prisoners here confined, and the irritability of mind incidental to prisoners in their state, and necessarily associated together without the capability of active employment, the degree of order and discipline that has been maintained deserves to be favourably noticed.

The Chaplains speak favourably in their reports of the religious and moral condition of the prisoners.

The school instruction also continues to be carried on satisfactorily, and complaints as to inattention or misconduct on the part of the prisoners in school have been of very rare occurrence.

The health of the prisoners has been successfully attended to by the Medical Officer; and notwithstanding that the prison population in the establishment consists in so large a proportion of invalids, the deaths during the year have only been 5 out of a daily average total of 237.

The convicts capable of labour have been employed, as in former years, at trades, such as tailors, shoemakers, weavers, or matmakers, and at the ordinary trades and employments necessary for carrying on the service of the prison, viz.:—baking, cooking, washing, &c.; and also in such carpenters' or blacksmiths' work as has been necessary for repairs. There having been but little new work for artizans or out of door labourers, at the prison, all those capable of being useful in this capacity have been drafted to Spike Island for employment on the Public Works. The degree of industry shown by the convicts in their different kinds of labour has been satisfactory. Their earnings or estimated value of their labour are shown in the table annexed to the Governor's Report. The expenses of the prison, shown also in a statement annexed to the Governor's Report, are of the ordinary character, and contain no item specially calling for remark.

In consequence of the large diminution in the number of convicts confined in this prison, and the finishing of the works necessary to complete the buildings, we found it practicable to recommend the discontinuance of the services of the Deputy Governor, the Clerk of

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Works, and eight of the subordinate officers, who will accordingly cease to be borne on the strength of the establishment after the 31st March instant. PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

No alterations have been considered necessary during the year in the existing rules and regulations; and there are no special matters of discipline or management which appear to call for any observation. *Directors' Report.*

WALTER CROFTON, *Chairman.*
J. LENTAIGNE, } *Directors.*
I. S. WHITTY, }

GOVERNOR'S REPORT.

Governor's Report.

Philipstown Convict Prison,
January 5, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my report on this prison, accompanied by returns of maintenance, expenditure, labour, and miscellaneous statistics for the past twelve months.

Subordinate Staff.—I am happy to stats that the warders of this prison have continued to maintain, as a body, that character for steadiness and respectability which I have heen enabled to accord to them in former reports; their duties have been efficiently conducted, with zeal, and a desire to meet actively all demands upon them. There have been, of course, cases of default, but I am glad to say that these were the exception, and generally more in the character of omission than commission. I have, however, to note one case of drunkenness—the offender was permitted to retire from the eervice—and one of prevarication in connexion with the escape of a prisoner, for which the warder was reduced to a lower grade, and otherwise punished. These have been the only cases of grave misconduct. The removal of two warders to Mountjoy Prisou, one to Lusk, and the resignation of a probation officer, who would have been reported physically unfit for the service, embrace the other staff casnalties for the past year.

Employment.—This prison being for the most part occupied by invalids, old men, or those subject to some physical or mental disahility, the employment has been necessarily of a varied character. Tho able-hodied class having been considerably reduced in July last, by the transfer to public works of a number of tradesmen, the services of whom were not further required here in the manufacturing departments, and labourers who had been employed on the building works, there remain only sufficient to keep up the necessary supplies of clothing, shoes, officers' uniform, and cloth in the piece for other prisons, and the casual repairs and heavy fatigue work of this establishment. The invalids and partial incapables, who represent a largo proportion of the prison population, are worked at matmaking, oakum-picking, winding for weavers, or at light fatigue work, and some few cripples and scrofuloue men at their respective trades. Since my last report the new barrack for reception of thc military detachment on convict guard has been completed, and is a creditable piece of work; other minor building, carpentry work, and repairs have also been executed. The return (No. 6), ou annexed file, will give the profit on labour during the year, which must, I think, he considered a fair average in a prison where a large proportion of the inmates are physically incapable of ordinary exertion, and the great majority of those set down as tradesmen are at the best only advanced apprentices; I can, however, report that the prisoners employed at trades have made considerable proficiency, and appear generally desirous of learning, as a means of future support.

The prisoners' sentences have been carried out in accordance with rule, and the instructions received from time to time from your Board; and I have heard no well-founded complaint of harshness or ill-treatment by tho officers.

Conduct of Prisoners.—The prisoners' conduct has been very good during the past twelve months. The Crime Return (No. 4), in Appendix, does not present any feature on which much special remark is needed; it is under that of last year, and considering the mixed classes to he dealt with, may, I think, be taken

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PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Governor's Report.

as indicative of an amended condition of mind and morals. In reference to that return, I would, however, observe that offences here should not be generally regarded in comparison with those in a prison ordinarily populated; this may fairly be called the asylum for invalids of all classes—the epileptic, the cripple, blind men, prisoners affected with scrofula, and though last, not by any means the least troublesome, are the idiots, irresponsibles, and men of almost every phase of warped intellect. It need scarcely be observed that their presence is an evil in any prison; they are not fairly subjects for punishment, but are a never-failing source of disquiet; they irritate their fellow-prisoners who are not generally disposed to make allowances for them, and it frequently becomes actually essential to order, and the safety of those about them, that separate confinement be used as a restraint, as when labouring under excitement they are nearly all violent, some of them dangerous, and when any enforcement of discipline is attempted, it is at once met in an insolent or insubordinate spirit. This prison is fortunately supplied with ample cellular accommodation, and we are in consequence better enabled to deal with what would be an intolerable nuisance in any establishment regulated by discipline, and less favourably circumstanced for the management of this class of criminal. I have adverted to this subject still more particularly, because a large proportion of the offences set down in the Crime Return under the heads of disorderly conduct, fighting, or assaults, and insolence, have been either directly committed or caused by men thus described, or the irritable invalid, who is but little less difficult of management. No case has occurred where the infliction of corporal punishment has been deemed necessary, and there has been but one proved assault upon an officer. On the 23rd of January an escape was effected, but prompt measures having been adopted, the convict was replaced in custody within an hour. Being already under a life sentence a prison punishment was awarded for the offence. The transfer of a number of disorderly and bad characters from Spike Island for treatment in the penal class of this prison, cannot fail in being useful to the support of discipline in both establishments. Since the formation of this class here in 1858, a marked improvement has taken place in the conduct of ill-disposed and formerly reckless characters, of which there are still a number here, sent back in the first instance to separate confinement in Mountjoy Prison, chiefly as unmanageable in association on public works, and who now rarely misconduct themselves or give any trouble.

Conduct and Classification.—This subject has been so fully dealt with by others, and in my former reports, that it need be hardly adverted to this year, except for the purpose of adding confirmation to my frequently-expressed opinions of its efficiency in the aid of discipline, and as a moral restraint kept at all times conspicuously before the prisoner's mind. The exposition and daily practice of other forms and rules would, doubtless, appear insipid to the convict, but these are, notwithstanding, narrowly watched, because a non-observance of any retards advancement in class, and on this point the interest rarely wavers. Of course it is not meant to be conveyed that in all cases this result is obtained, neither could it be expected that exceptions would not be found amongst those incapable of appreciating, or the hitherto heedless, ill-conditioned members of society, and bad prison characters; but even these latter find out their error in the long run, and it not unfrequently happens that a formerly ill-disposed and obdurate man, idle, and at the very least passively resisting all efforts towards his reclamation, becomes eventually quiet, amenable, and industrious.

Buildings.—The buildings are in good order, ventilation and sewage sufficient. Beyond pointing and roughcasting the exterior of old prison boundary wall, the periodical painting and cleaning up, or storm casualty, I do not think that any repairs will be required during the coming year.

I certify that the rules for the government of the prison have been complied with in every instance, except in such cases as have been distinctly reported to, or brought under the notice of a Director.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

FRANCIS HOGREVE, Governor.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

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PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Governor's Report.

RETURN of CONVICTS Committed and Disposed of from 1st January to 31st December, 1859.

January 1st, 1859—				December 31st, 1859—			
Number in custody,			288	In custody,			208
Effective,		205		Effective,		138	
Non-Effective,		83		Non-Effective,		70	
Add received during the year—				Add removed during the year—			
From Mountjoy Convict Prison,			88	To Spike Island Convict Prison,			101
,, Spike Island,			30	,, Smithfield,			57
,, Dundrum Lunatic Asylum,			1	,, Dundrum Lunatic Asylum,			2
				Discharged,			34
				Died,			5
Total,			407	Total,			407

RETURN of Conduct, Classification, and Sentences of Prisoners at present in Custody.

CONDUCT CLASSES.		TRANSPORTATION.		PENAL SERVITUDE.	
Advanced,	57	For 7 years,	4	For 3 years,	15
First (for 1st 6 months),	26	,, 10 ,,	10	,, 4 ,,	86
First (after 1st do.),	39	,, 14 ,,	8	,, 5 ,,	1
Second,	40	,, 15 ,,	10	,, 6 ,,	23
Third,	34	,, Life,	17	,, 7 ,,	15
Probation,	12			,, 8 ,,	2
				,,10 ,,	14
Total,	208			,,15 ,,	1
				,,Life,	2
		Total,	208		

RETURN of CRIMES of PRISONERS at present in Custody.

Murder,	6	Arson, and attempt to commit,	9
Conspiracy to Murder,	2	Burglary, and Robbery and Burglary,	63
Manslaughter,	4	Robbery,	8
Assault with intent to Murder,	2	Uttering forged drafts,	1
,, and Robbery,	4	Receiving stolen goods,	10
Grievous and other Assaults,	8	Larceny and previous conviction,	13
Rape,	1	Larceny,	29
Highway Robbery,	3	Felonies,	22
Horse stealing,	2	Uttering counterfeit coin,	2
Cow ,,	4		
Sheep ,,	6	MILITARY OFFENCES—	
Goat ,,	1	Striking Superior Officer,	2
Ass ,,	2	Desertion,	1
Coining,	1		
Forgery and Embezzlement,	2	Total,	208

RETURN of PRISON OFFENCES, Number of Offenders, &c., during the year.

OFFENCES—		Number of Offenders—154.	
Assaults on Officers,	1	1 Punished 11 times,	11
Gross Insubordination,	7	1 ,, 10 ,,	10
Insubordination,	13	1 ,, 8 ,,	8
Disobedience and Insolence,	87	4 ,, 7 ,,	28
Assaults on Convicts,	29	5 ,, 6 ,,	30
Disorderly conduct,	73	5 ,, 5 ,,	25
Theft,	8	8 ,, 4 ,,	32
Breach Prison Rules, "Slight Offences,"	112	14 ,, 3 ,,	42
		29 ,, 2 ,,	58
		86 ,, 1 ,,	86
Total,	330	Total,	330
		Number not Punished—253.	

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PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Governor's Report.

RETURN OF EMPLOYMENT—DAILY AVERAGE.

Tailors,	30·143	Picking Oakum,	·383
Shoemakers,	43·377	Laundry Men,	4·171
Carpenters, Coopers, and Sawyers,	6·546	Matmakers and Pickers,	2·695
Smiths,	2·248		
Painters,	2·984	Daily Average Effective and Light Labour Prisoners,	161·371
Labourers,	35·205	Daily Average Non-Effective (at School, in Hospital, Invalids, and in Cells),	75·897
Stores, Books, and Fatigue Work,	14·641		
Bakers,	3·000	Total Daily Average,	237·268
Masons and Stonecutters,	1·665		
Weavers and Winders,	13·375		
Tinkers,	·934		

ABSTRACT of Profit on Prisoners' Labour for year 1859.

	£	s.	d.
Building and Labour Department,	1,549	3	10
Manufacturing Department,	1,351	1	11
Bakery Department,	65	0	0
Profit on Pig Feeding,	34	14	9
	£3,000	0	6

Being a Profit of £18 10*s.* 6½*d.* per head on 161·371 Effective Prisoners.

ABSTRACT of EXPENSES for Prison Maintenance during the year ended 31st December, 1859.

HEADS OF SERVICE.	£	s.	d.	HEADS OF SERVICE.	£	s.	d.
Salaries,	3,319	14	5	Discharged Prisoners' Clothing,	66	9	10
Victualling, "including Officers' rations,"	2,275	3	3	Gratuities to Prisoners,	62	13	8
Prisoners' Clothing,	699	16	4	Bedding,	39	5	8
Fuel and Lighting,	552	16	4	Freights and Charges,	33	4	3
Washing and Soap,	273	13	7	Travelling Charges,	31	0	6
Officers' Clothing,	253	3	0	Prisoners on Discharge,	28	13	4
Incidental Charges.	167	14	10	Medicines and Surgical Instruments,	23	17	11
Repairs and Alterations of Prison,	101	19	10	Advertising,	9	7	0
Medical Comforts,	91	15	1	Funeral Expenses,	4	12	10
Rents, Rates, and Taxes.	73	7	4				
Utensils and Furniture,	71	18	6		£8,180	7	6

Medical Officer's Report.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Philipstown Convict Prison,
January 2, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to report that the general sanitary condition of this prison, during the past year, *was very satisfactory.*

On 1st January the hospital contained - - 30 patients,
Admissions during the year numbered - - 126 ,,

being thus registered:—

Fever of slight character,	21	Rheumatism,	4
Bronchitis,	12	Paroplegia,	1
Cynanche tonsillaris,	5	Diseases of spine,	2
Cynanche parotidea,	2	Diseases of joints,	5
Asthma,	3	Scrofula,	7
Phthisis,	2	Ophthalmia,	8
Bilious fever,	3	Abscesses,	5
Dysentery,	2	Indolent ulcers,	2
Diarrhœa,	6	Burns and scalds,	2
Dyspepsia,	3	Wounds of scalp,	3
Gastritis,	3	Herpes,	1
Enteritis,	2	Paronychia,	1
Hepatitis,	2	Testitis,	2
Ascites,	3	Foreign body in urethra,	1
Syncope,	2	Fistula in perineo,	1
Pericarditis,	1	Old age and debility,	3
Erysipelas,	1		126
Epilepsy,	4		
Lumbago,	1		

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PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Number in hospital, 1st January, 1859,	30
Number admitted during year,	126
Total,	156
Discharged cured, or relieved,	133
Died,	5
	138
Remaining in hospital, 31st December, 1859—	
Including *patients under treatment*,	13
Including cook, nurses, cleaners,	5
	18

Medical Officer's Report.

MONTHLY AVERAGE NUMBER OF INMATES IN HOSPITAL.

January,	26$\frac{6}{7}$	July,	19½
February,	28½	August,	17½
March,	28	September,	17½
April,	29	October,	19½
May,	26	November,	18
June,	26½	December,	19

Average number of hospital inmates for 1859, 22·989.

Number of convicts in this prison, 1st January, 1859,	288
,, ,, received during the year,	119
Total,	407

NUMBER AND CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Phthisis,	2
Chronic disease of liver,	1
,, ,, of spine,	1
Tabes mesenterica,	1
	5

This mortality per centage of $1\frac{78}{1000}$ in the year's amount of prisoners—the numbers and ordinary nature of the cases (as compared with former years), treated in the hospital, which contained *only* 13 *patients on 31st December*—the diminished applications, of trivial descriptions, at the dispensary—the evident decrease of invalid admissions into this prison, my disbelief of such class being retained in other prisons—all point out that the leavens of phthisis, scrofula, and other deadly afflictions, that carried such former disastrous sway, have almost entirely disappeared—that the convict community at large has attained a healthy position, *superior to that of the general population of Ireland* (provable by the difference of mortality in those two classes)—while the *remarkable diminution of crime*, together with the improved condition and circumstances of the people who heretofore supplied the pabula of convict prison mortality, portend *the great improbability* of future recurrent consequences of revolting disease so painfully developed on former occasions.

Thirteen warders received treatment during the past year for trifling complaints.

Two warders and three prisoners received slight injuries of their heads, not followed by serious results in either cases.

On the 31st May I extracted a large brass pin from the urethra of prisoner, registered No. 1518, H. K., who inadvertently introduced it some days previously. *The important operation of dividing the membranous portion of the urethra* produced no unpleasant consequences. The patient left hospital in a few days perfectly cured.

No other casualty worthy of notice occurred.

Four certified lunatics were transferred to the Central and District Asylums.

Adverting to my annual reports for 1856-7-8, to my observations therein relative to lunatic, idiotic, irresponsible, and other dangerous classes of convicts, and to my strongly expressed opinions *that existing arrangements render this prison wholly unsuited for such cases*, or to promote the curative results of treatment practised in regular lunatic asylums, I beg to submit the following recognitions of my views, as propounded in those reports.

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PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Medical Officer's Report.

Doctor Forbes Winslow (perhaps the most eminent living authority on such subjects), writes thus, "On the Obscure Mental Disorders of Criminals," in his *Journal of Psychological Medicine*—New Series, No. 13, January, 1859:—

"The mental disorders of criminals are of singular interest, more particularly those obscure affections which may be arranged as a transition series between positive criminality on the one hand, and criminality as the result of manifest insanity on the other. Cases of this kind are distinguished, perhaps, more by the anomalous mode in which the vicious or criminal propensities are manifested than in any other fashion; and their importance (as yet, perhaps, not sufficiently recognised), can scarcely be exaggerated; for, from the circumstances under which they are observed, they offer to the psycophatist an excellent opportunity for the careful and systematic study of many of those slight shadings off of the healthy into the morbid action of the brain, which are all important in mental pathology and therapeutics. These cases, moreover, are equally important to the medical jurist; for from them he may, with the greatest probability, hope to obtain many satisfactory aids in the diagnosis of certain obscure forms of insanity, accompanied by criminal acts, for the want of which be is, not unfrequently, placed at disadvantage in a court of law.

"A prisoner confined in one of our large prisons is so situated that he may be observed steadily and systematically, and the conditions under which he is placed, and their influence upon him, may be fully ascertained and accurately estimated. The evidence, therefore, which would be obtained regarding obscure mental affections, under these circumstances, might be expected to have peculiar value. No evidence, probably, would more certainly and quickly operate in inducing the public to admit the justice of the proposition, that when positive indications of the existence of a morbid state of mind are ascertained in a prisoner, he ought to be dealt with after a different fashion to the ordinary criminal. Punishment in such cases is not only useless, but it is commonly harmful; and if hopeless insanity be not determined by it, most probably it will aggravate the vicious disposition of the prisoner, who will, at the termination of his imprisonment, be guilty of other more serious criminal acts.

"Prisoners of the class referred to require to be treated as lunatics—not as criminals—and their confinement should have for its object the testing of their true state of mind, and the adoption of such means of relief as may be deemed necessary, while their release should be made dependent upon their mental condition.

"In illustration of the foregoing remarks, and as a valuable contribution to mental pathology, we may quote several cases of the more obscure mental disorders of criminals which are recorded in the recently published Reports of the Directors of Convict Prisons in England and in Ireland."

After quoting at length several cases (recorded by Dr. Bradley, the medical officer of the Pentonville Prison), of convicts under his care and observation, whose acts, although extremely violent and of suspicious character, rendered it probable that insanity, in a latent, unrecognised form, was present, unaccompanied by incoherence or delusion, Dr. Winslow adds the following pertinent remarks of Doctor Bradley:—

"The preceding cases illustrate a peculiar class of prisoners received into Pentonville and the convict prisons at the present time. Prisoners of the description referred to are characterized by inveterate idleness, obstinacy, and insubordination, by gross and apparently motiveless misconduct. They are, at intervals, violent, and smash every thing within reach. They assault officers, disturb the prison by shouting, and set all order at defiance. Some are intractable malingerers, others threaten or attempt suicide. Such individuals occupy a mental territory between crime and insanity, oscillating from one to the other, until at length incoherence or delusion becomes apparent—mental equilibrium is lost, and they fall into the domain of insanity. On these the authorized prison punishments are found to be worse than useless, and the existing systems of discipline, whether separate or associated, produce little benefit.

"To deal effectively with them, before actual insanity is established, a special and peculiar discipline is needed. Separate confinement, so far as my experience extends, is not attended by any good result."

Dr. Winslow proceeds to say:—

"That Dr. Maurice Corr, the Medical Superintendent of Philipstown Government Prison, reports the necessity for having recommended the transfer of fourteen convicts to lunatic asylums—that several of these patients were entitled to their discharge at the time of their removal to the central asylum—that they had not expressed any desire for liberty, nor shown any regret under severe privations, nor any inclination to amend."

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Here Dr. Winslow quotes in full my reports on the several cases referred to, and then states :—

PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

"That Dr. Corr further informs us that Philipstown Prison contains, under medical observation, a class rather numerous, of weak-minded, passionate, irresponsible convicts, who, without presenting decided symptoms of lunacy, are absolutely unfit for associated prisons, by their dangerous propensities, easily excited violence, and constant retention of officers and prisoners in fear of their temper. Such a class is entirely unsuited to the mildest form of discipline, against which, each after his own fashion, resists more or less violently. The consequences are inevitable. Such characters must be locked up in separation, and thus a case in its incipient stage quite curable, steals along, under such treatment into confirmed lunacy."

Medical Officer's Report.

After citing the report of Dr. Banon, Medical Officer to Grangegorman Female Prison, who refers to "a series of cases of doubtful lunacy occurring among the female convicts under his care," Dr. Winslow thus concludes:—

"In what manner prisoners of doubtful sanity should be dealt with becomes a question of very considerable importance. It is evident, from the cases which we have related, that imprisonment, whether of the associate or separate character, aggravates, as a rule, the morbid condition of mind, and fails altogether of its proper effects. Dr. Maurice Corr suggests the establishment of an institution, intervening in character between a prison and an asylum, and conducted on the principles of a lunatic asylum. An institution so constituted he conceives (referring particularly to Ireland), would offer the following advantages:—

"I.—It would relieve pressure on the Central Asylum, by providing certain moral and medical tests for convicts who appear to be deranged, as to the reality of their symptoms, whether of idiocy, lunacy, or insanity, and thus, with the most feasible prospect of detecting malingerers, it would be sure to produce fair results in doubtful cases.

"II.—It would secure the best chance of recovery in hopeful cases.

"III.—It would afford ample opportunity for the application of reformatory treatment to all of those classes.

"We entirely concur in the suggestion of Dr. Corr, and we believe that an institution of the character he mentions is as much required in England as in Ireland. The lunatic hospitals in London and in the provinces do not supply the need, and cannot be made available for doubtful cases of lunacy. A prison, duly regulated, would be made a state hospital for cases of incipient or suspected lunacy among offenders; and its establishment would not only secure the advantages mentioned by Dr. Corr, but it would also put an end to those unsatisfactory and painful instances of frequent change from prison to asylum—from asylum to prison—and from prison to prison, shown in the cases recorded by Mr. Bradley."

The Inspectors of Lunatic Asylums, in their Ninth Annual Report (1859), states, with reference to the Central Asylum :—

"The convicts reported as insane are by far the most difficult patients we have to deal with. Some are, evidently, of unsound mind, epileptic, or idiotic; the remainder are shrewd, wayward, morose, and uncertain; their previous habits and associations give them a facility of concealment which can only be contended with by constant supervision and watching. In the Government Prisons, particularly at Philipstown, the receptacle for the worst cases, the convicts in question are unruly and insubordinate; but when removed to the Central Asylum, where they enjoy more liberty, they soon improve. In the better classes of society individuals of the above stamp might be considered as highly eccentric, but, withal, not fit subjects by a jury to be deprived of their social rights, inasmuch as responsibility would attach to their acts. We cannot, however, but think that for convicts, with the development of such symptoms of perverse disposition, an institution, such as Dundrum, is well calculated, were it merely on account of the facilities thereby afforded to test their true condition. Seven or eight years ago applications for admission from the convict departments were much more numerous than at present, some evident malingerers, thinking to get transferred to the asylum. Latterly, however, this disposition among the prisoners is on the wane, owing to the frustration of attempts to simulate insanity."

When I add to the preceding testimonials of unquestionable experience, that this prison at present contains several examples of the class referred to—that some of that number have already traversed the melancholy path from incipient irresponsibility to confirmed lunacy—that my daily observation affords no doubt

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PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Medical Officer's Report.

whatever of similar results in other individuals, I feel justified to express an ardent hope that my former recommendations will not now be permitted to lie dormant—that the reform of an arrangement (palpably injudicious, if not altogether opposed to the dictates of humanity), which retains the wretched objects of my references within the walls of this prison, in solitary gloominess, under the blighting influence of bodily inaction, and the sufferings of separate confinement, will no longer vainly demand legislative sanction, in the absence or failure of other more speedy measures to attain an end so desirable.

I have much pleasure in recording my fourth annual confirmation of the zeal and strict attention to his duties displayed by Mr. King, my assistant.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

MAURICE CORR, M.D., F.R.C.S.I.

The Directors of Convict Prisons.
Dublin Castle.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Philipstown Convict Prison,
January 4, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—In compliance with your instructions, conveyed to me through the Governor, I beg leave to subjoin my report for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

On taking a retrospect of the period referred to, I find very few incidents of a novel or peculiar character to lay before you. Indeed, I cannot recollect any interval, since the commencement of my connexion with the convict service, which has been characterized by so few events calling for special observation. I may add, however, that the experience of another year has strengthened my impression of the excellent adaptation of the means employed here for the reformation of prisoners. Consequences of an enduring and valuable character are clearly traceable to the combined influence of the moral and religious instruction imparted to them, and to that admirable system of industrial training to which they are subjected. I am firmly persuaded that these happy results must, ultimately, very favourably affect the well-being of society.

To those who are aware of the great difficulty, at first, in dealing with these misguided individuals, and in turning the current of their thoughts from their evil courses into other and better channels, and in persuading them to recognise the love and fear of God as the highest and first motive to duty; I say that, to such persons, it will frequently appear a matter of surprise that any progress towards such high ends can be effected. It is a fact, however, that in numerous instances we see their evil propensities yielding, under the blessing of God, to the ameliorating influences of moral and religious truth, and many ready to acknowledge that their present chastisement will be made instrumental in promoting not only their future temporal, but also their final and everlasting good.

I cannot but regard it as a very encouraging circumstance in connexion with my ministrations, that only a very small proportion of those who had been under my pastoral care have, since their discharge, become entangled again in the ways of crime, and returned here under a sentence of re-conviction.

In any system of prison discipline designed to have a favourable influence on character, the reward of the well-conducted and the discouragement of the evil, must ever command the highest attention. This observation is peculiarly applicable to the system of conduct badges adopted here some years ago. It is interesting to remark how far the fear of degradation operates, and to see how large a proportion of them never relax in their efforts to maintain a high standard of moral conduct.

The Schoolmaster, Mr. Farrelly, continues to discharge the duties connected with his arduous office with singular ability, industry, and success. I have reason to know that the prisoners find in this excellent officer not only a valuable instructor in their literary pursuits, but also a judicious adviser, and real and sincere friend.

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In conclusion, I beg to reiterate it as my decided conviction, that by a continued exercise of the firm and salutary discipline of the prison, in conjunction with the invaluable means of improvement already adverted to, that the happiest fruits will abound more and more each successive year, and that the most sanguine hopes of the philanthropist will be fully realized. PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

I have the honour to remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant, *Protestant Chaplain's Report.*

WILLIAM LITTLE, Protestant Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

Philipstown, January 2, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to send you my Prison Report for the year ending 31st of December, 1859.

You will be glad to hear, as I am to inform you, that the conduct of the prisoners generally, so far as it came under my observation, has been, for the last year, more than usually satisfactory. This marked improvement is not, in my opinion, to be attributed exclusively to any particular agency, but under God, to a system devised by you, and carried out with the utmost punctuality by every officer here, from the Governor (whose ability in the discharge of his duties is beyond all praise) down to the most humble individual in the service.

Some refractory characters have been drafted here from time to time during the year who do not appear to have shared much, if any at all, in the general improvement; but their apparent perversity is, in my opinion, more their misfortune than their fault, as they seem to labour under some mental inability which renders them inaccessible to the salutary influences of religious instructions, or moral training.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

P. DOYLE, Roman Catholic Chaplain.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

HEAD SCHOOLMASTER'S REPORT.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

Philipstown Convict Prison,
January 6, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my annual report on the schools of this prison for the year ended 31st December, 1859.

The arrangement for giving instruction, and the subjects taught, are the same as explained in my former reports: reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, writing from dictation, agriculture, its theory and practice, lessons on natural history, and the more useful lessons on social questions, still forming the programme of instruction pursued in these schools. Grammar and geography are taught by lecture from the text books and from their reading books. Each prisoner reading Third or Fourth Book of Lessons is required to prepare, either in his cell, or during his leisure hours, a lesson each week in grammar and geography, on which he is examined either by my assistant or myself, all difficulties that may have occurred to him on those subjects being carefully explained to him, until he is fully able to master them, and, by this means, stimulated to renewed exertion. A record of his answering is kept for future reference. The additional labour which this plan entails is amply rewarded by the progress made in these useful subjects by the prisoners; it also enables me to have all the prisoners possessing nearly the same amount of knowledge in grammar and geography placed in the same classes, so that each of these classes can be more efficiently instructed, and the subjects taught made more interesting than could be done if the prisoners constituting those classes had not made the same proficiency.

Each prisoner is supplied with books suited to his capacity for self-instruction in his cell, and I still follow the course which I mentioned in my report for the year 1858, of examining him on the subject-matter of the books he has had, and I make an additional supply depend on his knowledge of the subjects treated of in those books. This practice has been attended with the most satisfactory

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PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

results. In addition to the instruction which I myself give to the old men, and those who are otherwise incapacitated from making much improvement in reading, and who have attained the advanced conduct class, I cause interesting portions of some instructive book to be read and explained to them, from which they derive much useful information.

The standard of proficiency for each of the school classes has been considerably raised during the past year, so as to bring it more closely to the programme in use by the Commissioners of National Education. I therefore retain in the lower divisions of their respective classes, prisoners whose progress in reading might entitle them to promotion. This I found necessary to do, as very many of them on their reception here, particularly those placed in Third and Fourth Reading Books, although they could read with more or less ease and intelligence, were altogether ignorant in other respects.

The attention of the prisoners to their studies, both in the day and evening schools, their orderly and respectful demeanour in school, and the zeal they evinced in profiting by the instruction afforded, as well as the literary progress made by the great majority of them for the past year in various subjects taught, I have seldom seen equalled, certainly never surpassed, in any school that came under my notice as a teacher for the last twenty years.

Of 195 prisoners discharged or removed from this to other prisons in the course of the past year, 77·95 per cent. read well, 19·48 per cent. read tolerably, and 2·57 per cent. were unable to read; 91·28 per cent. wrote small-hand (the penmanship of many of these was highly creditable to them); 52·82 per cent. knew proportion, practice, &c.; 21·54 per cent. were learning compound rules and reduction; and 18·46 were in the simple rules, making a total of 92·82 per cent. who had acquired some knowledge of arithmetic. A very large majority of those had also a good knowledge of grammar and geography, and other useful information.

As the reformation of the criminal should at all times be a consideration of paramount importance with the teacher of a prison school, I have directed my best efforts to develop the moral sentiments of the prisoners, and to create in them a hatred of the reckless course of life which they had followed previous to their convictions. I point out to them the baneful consequences of intemperance; that while it is the prolific parent of crime, it undermines the constitution, and sows the seeds of disease which brings thousands to a premature grave. I firmly impress on their minds the necessity of honesty, of self-dependence, industry, self-respect, and perseverance; the dangers arising from the demoralizing influence of their former associates in crime, and the necessity of avoiding them and all other bad companions when restored to liberty. I remind them of the misery which their recklessness inflicted on their families and friends, and the agony of mind which they themselves must endure by separation from those nearest and dearest to them. The more effectually to aid in the reformation of these unhappy men, I gain their confidence—make them feel that I am their friend. I take them individually, and not in the hearing of other prisoners, and enter fully with them into the history of their past lives and future prospects. I am thus better enabled to individualize them, and to shape for them a course of future action, such as will be calculated to restore them to the social status which they had forfeited by the violation of the laws of God and their country.

These schools were visited in the course of the year by Timothy Sheahan, Esq., Head Inspector of National Schools, who seemed well pleased with the answering of the prisoners and the management and discipline of the schools.

I feel much pleasure in bearing testimony to the willing co-operation of the Assistant Schoolmaster, Mr. Long, and the zeal and efficiency evinced by him in the discharge of his duties.

In conclusion, I feel bound to express my grateful acknowledgments to the Governor and Chief Warder, for their valuable assistance given me in the discharge of my duties.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PATRICK FARRELLY, Head Schoolmaster.

The Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

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RETURN of the School Classes on Books on the 1st of January, 1859, showing the Admissions and Discharges during the year, and the number remaining on the 1st January, 1860.

PHILIPSTOWN GOVERNMENT PRISON.

Head Schoolmaster's Report.

	Classes.	On Rolls, 1st January, 1859.	Admitted.	Total.	Discharged.	On Rolls, 1st January, 1860.	Total.
READING.	First Book,	12	12	24	5	11	16
	Second Book,	22	28	50	18	25	43
	Sequel,	23	12	35	20	7	27
	Third Book,	70	34	104	52	44	96
	Fourth Book,	153	17	170	100	101	201
	Total,	280	103	383	195	188	383
WRITING.	On Slates,	16	28	44	5	15	20
	Large-hand,	6	12	18	5	9	14
	Round-hand,	21	10	31	7	17	24
	Small-hand,	237	53	290	178	147	325
	Total,	280	103	383	195	188	383
ARITHMETIC.	Making figures,	12	41	53	14	17	31
	Simple rules,	74	43	117	36	52	88
	Compound rules,	56	12	68	42	42	84
	Proportion,	37	4	41	28	21	49
	Practice and above,	101	3	104	75	56	131
		280	103	383	195	188	383

MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Director's Report.

All the female convicts in Ireland under sentence of transportation and penal servitude are now located in Mountjoy Female Depot, which has been occupied by them since the 20th September, 1858, and although still in a very unfinished state, is an excellent and convenient prison. We have been considerably aided in our treatment of this class of offenders in the early stages of their imprisonment, by the facilities given through the improved prison construction which has been adopted.

The Commissioners of Works have, we understand, made arrangements to complete, during the ensuing summer, such buildings and other requirements as are most urgently demanded, by which means the remaining difficulties attendant on the occupation of an unfinished establishment will be removed. During the past year three exercise rings have been put up; some cells that were required in the basements of C and D wings have been formed; a food lift partly erected; an entrance road made to the prison and lighted with gas; and the grounds about the building are now being levelled. We have had every reason to be well satisfied with the conduct of the officers of this Depot, who have generally exerted themselves to the utmost of their ability, and the Superintendent reports favourably of their efficiency.

The conduct of the prisoners, with the exception of that of a small class, has been very good; and the great majority have

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MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Directors' Report.

endeavoured to acquire, by strict adherence to the rules, the advantage of removal to the Refuges, on which the entire prospect of their future life depends.

During a large portion of the year much of the time of the convicts was necessarily occupied in getting the building into order. This circumstance has been a considerable drawback in carrying on the industrial works of the establishment; notwithstanding which, especially during the latter part of the year, a considerable amount of work has been executed.

The school arrangements and progress of the prisoners under instruction have been very satisfactory. The Chaplains have expressed a favourable opinion of their moral and religious condition. Much advantage has been derived from the frequent visits of the Protestant lady visitors, and the Sisters of Mercy. They have devoted much time and attention to the improvement of the prisoners, and their efforts have been attended with the most favourable results.

There have been only three deaths among the convicts during the past year, principally from lung disease.

WALTER CROFTON, *Chairman.*
J. LENTAIGNE, } *Directors.*
I. S. WHITTY, }

Superintendent's Report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Mountjoy Female Prison,
January 10, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit to you my annual report of the management of the Mountjoy Female Prison for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

The number of inmates on the 1st of January, 1859, was 411, which has been greatly increased by the closing, on the 31st of March last, of Grangegorman Government Prison, when the last of the convict prisoners were transferred to this prison.

During the year the number sent to the reformatories on ticket of licence, were 93, and liberated on the expiration of their sentences, 71.

One prisoner was for two days and one night from under my custody, and as the circumstances connected with her history are curious, I may mention them here. She was convicted of being concerned in the robbery of a large sum of money from her employer, and sentenced to four years' penal servitude. After spending some time in the prison, she told me not only that she had stolen the money, but that it was hidden, and that she knew where. The owner was written to, stating the place. Search was made, but not finding it, permission was applied for him to be allowed to see her. After that interview he recovered thirty-six pounds; there still remained some gold, which she could not make him understand where it was hidden. By order of the Directors, she was sent, in charge of a constabularly party, to the locality where the money was buried, and by means of the information she gave, the whole was recovered. The woman was subsequently discharged ten months before the expiration of her sentence, having only earned, while in the prison, seven shillings and nine pence. When I last heard any thing of her, she and her child were in very poor circumstances, as the man to whom she had voluntarily restored a large sum of money had not given her any compensation for so doing.

As I have already in my reports so fully expressed my approbation of the system of classification by marks, it is quite unnecessary I should say more than

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that an additional year's experience has only served to confirm my opinion of its efficacy as a stimulus to improvement on the part of the prisoners. MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Owing to the alterations in the building, I have been able to effect the complete separation of the classes in different wings of the prison. The discipline has been, on the whole, enforced in a most satisfactory manner, and I consider that the conduct of the prisoners has been decidedly good. There are no less than 250 women in the first and advanced division, being, as you will perceive, more than half the entire number. On the other hand, as may be expected, there is a class of women so hardened in crime that it is exceedingly difficult to inspire them with any anxiety for their reformation, or to induce them to conform to the regulations. But the most difficult class to deal with are the young girls who have either been reared or spent a long period in workhouses; they seem to be amenable to no persuasion, advice, or punishment. When they are corrected, even in the mildest manner, for any breach of regulations, they seem to lose all control of reason—they break the windows of their cells, tear up their bedding, and in many cases (where they have been secured before being able to do any other mischief) they have torn their clothing with their teeth. Their language while in this state of excitement is absolutely shocking. They are not at all deficient in intelligence or capacity for better things. They learn quite as quickly, perhaps more quickly than the average of prisoners, and when in school are generally very attentive. They seem to me, indeed, to be animated rather by a most perverse tendency to mischief, and a spirit of reckless insubordination, than by a love for actual vice. From one Union alone, I have seven such characters; but I am happy to say that some, whom I had looked upon as almost hopeless, have become quiet, orderly prisoners, and have acquired a good deal of self-control; and I have hopes, that out of the remainder many may yet be reclaimed. *Superintendent's Report.*

Some of the large rooms have been divided into cells for the prisoners who are so far advanced as to be eligible for the reformatories. The diminished separation offered by the slight partition and gratings of these cells is a sort of test of the disposition of the prisoners to behave in an orderly manner. I may here remark, that the work of these cells was most admirably performed by a number of juvenile convicts from the Mountjoy Male Prison, and that it affords a most satisfactory proof of the proficiency which these boys had obtained in their several trades.

In the early part of this year, there was a great scarcity of employment for the prisoners, and the returns of profit on their labour will not therefore be so large as they might have been. For some months past, however, the prisoners have been kept fully occupied at needlework, a large quantity of which is sent weekly to Scotland. This employment is not only valuable in a pecuniary point of view, but also in training them to habits of quiet steady industry. Having frequently in my reports borne testimony to the inestimable value of religious influences in the reformation of prisoners, I am rejoiced to be able to say that the exertions of the Chaplains of all persuasions have been unremitting during the past year, and have, I do not doubt, produced most excellent results. The visits of the Sisters of Mercy to the Roman Catholic prisoners, and by Protestant and Presbyterian lady visitors to those of their own persuasion, have also been continued, and have, in my opinion, been productive of the most important benefit.

The schools still continue to prove a most important reformatory agent, and the manner in which they have been conducted by the officers in charge deserve my highest approbation. The establishment of an infant school, which has taken place during the present year, and by means of which the grown children are separated from their mothers, has been most beneficial, The children are spared by that means from much of the evil they are too likely to derive from association with grown prisoners.

I have reason to be satisfied with the mode in which the staff of the prison have performed their duties. They are generally steady and firm, and anxious for the moral improvement of the prisoners. There have been a good many new appointments this year. Three female and two male officers resigned and left the service.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

The Directors of Convict Prisons. DELIA I. LIDWILL, Superintendent.

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MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Superintendent's Report.

I certify, that to the best of my belief the rules laid down for the government of the prison have been complied with in every instance, except in such cases as have been distinctly reported to, or brought under the notice of a Director.

DELIA L. LIDWILL, Superintendent.

STATEMENT of Number of CONVICTS Committed, Disposed of, &c., from 1st January to 31st December, 1859.

	Adults.	Children.
In custody, 1st January, 1859,	411	34
Received during the year,	203	12
Born in the Prison,	—	10
Total,	614	56
Discharged during the year,	71	16
Removed to Central Lunatic Asylum,	3	—
Transferred to Refuges on "Order of Licence,"	93	—
Died,	3	7
	170	23
Remaining in Custody, 31st December,	444	33

STATEMENT showing the Estimated Value of Prisoners' Work performed, and the Number employed, during the year ended 31st December, 1859.

Nature of Work Performed.	Average Number Employed Daily.	Estimated Value of Work Performed. £	s.	d.
In sewing, knitting, and embroidery,	295·3	183	15	8
In sewing and knitting for shops,		258	13	10
In repairs of clothing and bedding for prisoners,		25	8	7
In repairs of clothing for Mountjoy Male Prison,		1	12	7
In repairs of clothing for Philipstown Male Prison,		12	7	0
In washing prisoners' clothing and bedding, laundry department,	36·4	459	15	3
In washing for Mountjoy Male Prison, laundry department,		203	12	2
In washing for Smithfield Male Prison, laundry department,		35	14	7
In washing for Government Prisons' Office, laundry department,		6	4	4
In washing for Four Courts Marshalsea, laundry department,		2	13	3
Employed cooking, cleaning prison, nursing, and monitresses in school, for 303 working days, at 6*d.* per day,	96·3	729	9	5
Totals,	428	£1,919	6	8

Average value of the Work of each Prisoner, £4 9s. 8*d.*

AGES OF PRISONERS IN CUSTODY.

15 years and under 20 years,	45
20 ,, 25 ,,	145
25 ,, 30 ,,	81
30 ,, 35 ,,	66
35 ,, 40 ,,	40
40 ,, 45 ,,	25
45 years and upwards,	42
Total,	444

Age of youngest prisoner in custody, 15 years.
Age of oldest, 70 years.

CONVICTIONS OF PRISONERS IN CUSTODY.

Number convicted in 1851,	2
,, 1852,	8
,, 1853,	18
,, 1854,	13
,, 1855,	15
,, 1856,	58
,, 1857,	122
,, 1858,	105
,, 1859,	103
Total,	444

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MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Superintendent's Report.

SENTENCES of PRISONERS.

Transportation, 7 years,	4	Penal Servitude, 7 years,	24
,, 10 ,,	14	,, 8 ,,	5
,, 14 ,,	8	,, 10 ,,	4
,, 15 ,,	10	,, 14 ,,	—
,, Life,	16	,, 15 ,,	1
Penal Servitude, 3 years,	112	,, Life,	1
,, 4 ,,	218		
,, 5 ,,	2	Total,	444
,, 6 ,,	25		

ABSTRACT of EXPENSES for the year ended 31st December, 1859.

Heads of Service.	Amount Paid. £	s.	d.
Paid on account of—			
Salaries,	2,460	3	10
Brushes, Brooms, and Mops,	65	15	0
Victualling, including Officers' Rations,	3,185	4	7
Fuel and Lighting,	828	0	7
Alterations and Repairs of Prison,	216	2	1
Contingencies,	74	8	4
Utensils and Furniture,	212	3	10
Implements,	4	8	1
Medicines and Surgical Instruments,	45	6	10
Medical Comforts,	57	3	3
Prisoners' Gratuities,	411	17	5
Freights and Charges,	18	1	3
Travelling Charges, Officers on Duty,	9	10	2
Prisoners on Discharge,	381	12	5
Prisoners' Clothing,	847	6	0
Funeral Expenses,	7	2	3
Washing and Soap,	499	4	0
Cleaning Prison,	12	9	0
Bedding,	85	5	1
Officers' Clothing,	58	11	4
Advertising,	16	8	0
Rents, Rates, and Taxes,	168	8	10
Total,	£9,664	2	2

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORT.

Medical Officer's Report.

Mountjoy-square, Dublin,
January, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—In forwarding the Medical Report of the Mountjoy Female Prison for the year 1859, I have the pleasure to state that the sanitary condition of the prisoners during that period, as will be seen by the accompanying tables, has been on the whole satisfactory.

Number of patients in hospital on 1st January, 1859,	12
Number since then admitted to 31st December, 1859,	362
Total,	374
Discharged during the year,	346
Died,	3
Remaining in hospital on 31st December, 1859,	25
Total,	374

Number and Causes of Deaths during the year.

Registry No.	Initials.	Received in Prison.	Admitted to hospital.	Date of death.	Disease.
439	M.G.	January 4, 1859,	May 16, 1859,	July 10, 1859,	Phthisis.
451	E.S.	January 4, 1859,	Nov. 16, 1859,	Nov. 17, 1859,	Eng. Cholera
96	M.M.	Dec. 22, 1858,	Sept. 9, 1859,	Dec. 3, 1859,	Phthisis.

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MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Medical Officer's Report.

Diseases of those admitted to Hospital during the year.

Abscess and ulcers,	15	Ophthalmia,	9
Bronchitis, acute and chronic,	56	Dislocation of jaw,	1
Biliary derangement,	27	Rheumatism,	13
Febrile catarrhal affections,	59	Skin diseases,	7
Cardial affections,	14	Epistaxis,	3
Diarrhœa,	34	Hemoptoe,	5
Dysentery,	2	Phthisis,	7
Gonorrhœa,	13	Influenza,	18
Syphilis,	14	Erysipelas,	4
Ulcers,	5	Pneumonia,	5
Leucorrhœa,	7	Fever,	7
Hysteria and epilepsy,	6	Scrofula,	9
Dropsy,	2	Lunatics,	5
Parturitio,	10		
Uterine diseases,	7	Hospital nurses,	8

There have been 2,548 cases of illness treated in the cells and hospital wards of the prison, 424 visits paid to the prisoners in punishment cells, 117 visits to the officers in their quarters outside the prison.

Lunatics sent to Asylums during the year.

Register No.	Initials.	When received in prison.	When convicted.	Where convicted.	Where sent.	When.
527	M. W.	Oct. 6, 1857,	25 Aug., 1857,	Dublin.	Dublin Lunatic Asylum,	18 Oct., 1859.
508	M. M.	June 8, 1857,	23 Feb., 1857,	Wicklow.	Do.,	16 July, 1859.
348	M. R.	April 11, 1854,	11 April, 1854,	Dublin.	Do.,	17 Oct., 1859.
546	T. D.	Nov. 2, 1855,	25 Oct., 1855,	Cork.	Cork Lunatic Asylum,	24 Oct., 1859.

In hospital under my close observation, two suspected lunatics, Registered Numbers 309, M. D. and 558, P. C.; 13 births occurred during the year 1859; 2 children still-born, 7 children died.

Since the period of my writing my last report, the inconvenience resulting from inadequate accommodation has been much more felt. I am still of opinion that a detached hospital should be built on a good site capable of accommodating at least forty patients; but if this recommendation be not adopted, I would urge on the Directors the absolute necessity of at once enlarging the present hospital in the manner proposed in the plans submitted for my approval last summer. The want of proper accommodation has latterly become most embarrassing and even injurious in the treatment of the sick. I have also to state, that I have thought it my duty during the year to call the attention of the Directors to the defective ventilation in the prison generally, and to the very objectionable mode of heating portions of it, particularly the rooms occupied as nurseries, by gas.

Another subject to which I have alluded in former reports has during the past year been carefully considered by me; I allude to the treatment of those prisoners who may be deemed "morally insane." It will be seen that during the year no less than four prisoners were sent to Lunatic Asylums, and others remain under observation. Some of these women have been for years under my observation, both in this prison and at Grangegormau; and from the peculiarity of their symptoms, I had some difficulty in coming to the conclusion that they were actually insane in the usual acceptation of the word; but latterly I have been able to satisfy myself that they were fit subjects for a lunatic asylum, at least more so than for a prison. I have before alluded to the great advantage it would be to possess some intermediate place in which these incorrigible subjects, who cannot be brought to submit to the rules of a prison, and whose fits of passion and violence, without cause or motive, can only be referred to "moral insanity," could be classed and treated as their cases require. In the absence of such means of treatment it only remains to select the worst cases—viz: those whose conduct can be only ascribed to insanity, for transmission to a lunatic asylum, and to treat the others in the best way possible in a prison. Of

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MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Medical Officer's Report.

this class some of those cases sent during the year to Lunatic Asylums were remarkable specimens. The first case M.W., Register 527, aged 26, was constantly under observation for several months, and, though her conduct was not perhaps so vile and vicious as that of some of the others, she systematically broke the rules of the prison, tore her clothes and smashed panes of glass without number, assaulted officers and prisoners indiscriminately, and disturbed the whole prison for hours together, and sometimes for a whole night, with screaming and shouting; and when asked the cause of all this outrageous conduct, she would assign none, and often made promises not to offend again, which were broken as soon as the officer's back was turned. This girl was in prison two years and two months, had been convicted of felony, had been committed previously twenty-four times for larceny and disorderly conduct, and led an abandoned life, could neither read nor write. Latterly she would appear, on opening her cell, quite naked, and would laugh in a silly manner on being spoken to; was heard frequently talking and muttering to herself, and appeared quite indifferent to punishment. The next case, M.M., Register 508, aged 24, was one of the worst and most incorrigible cases I have ever seen; had been two years and a-half in prison; convicted for arson; had been twice previously convicted for arson and threatening to burn; lived several years an abandoned life; attempted to throw her shoe at the Judge, when passing sentence on her; could neither read nor write; frequently threatened the lives of the officers. This prisoner's character in the prison was ferocious in the extreme, it was considered often dangerous to enter her cell, she possessed no apparent control over her fits of excitement and was quite destitute of shame in exposing herself before the officers (male and female) of the prison. She at different times did great damage to the prison, breaking windows and breaking through the walls of her cell. This conduct arose without any assignable cause or motive; has a silly expression of countenance, and laughs loudly on being reasoned with; is quite indifferent to punishment.

The next case, M. R., Register 348, aged 33, does not require much observation, as delusions and incoherence left no doubt of her insanity. She was in prison five years and a-half; had been convicted of larceny; fifteen times previously convicted; had long led a bad life; had been always a quiet prisoner until the occurrence of insanity; could read and write. The next and last case, J. D., Register 546, aged 29, was nearly as bad as the case of M M., and if possible more dangerous; four years in prison; convicted for stealing clothes; convicted twice previously for larceny; had led a bad life; could read; conduct in prison much the same as M.M., had dangerously assaulted officers and prisoners; on one occasion nearly biting off the finger of a prisoner without the least provocation; quite indifferent to punishment; language awfully blasphemous; excitement produced without cause or apparent motive.

I have gone rather minutely into the particulars of these cases for a report like the present, but not at all sufficiently so for the importance of the subject. It is obvious that great responsibility devolves on the medical officer of a prison, in which cases such as the above must be brought from time to time under his notice, not only as regards his being justified in sending them to a lunatic asylum, but also as regards their treatment whilst in prison. Fortunately the duties of the medical officer affords him ample opportunities of constant observation, and of applying such tests as he may think fit, to ascertain the real state of mind of the prisoner, and of discriminating between malingering and real insanity. As to their treatment whilst in prison, a no less responsibility rests with him. If he suspects insanity, he should be cautious in permitting the usual punishments to be inflicted, until he has made up his mind of its existence, when no time should be lost in effecting the patient's transfer to a lunatic asylum. Detention under such circumstances can only tend to the malady becoming confirmed.

I have, in former reports (1856, 1857, and 1858) alluded to a class of convicts with whom it was very difficult to deal, namely, those who, though they cannot be pronounced actually insane, are of such defective mental organization as to render them not wholly responsible for the violence and excitement they too often exhibit. It appears to me that the discipline of a prison must more or less tend to aggravate this morbid condition of mind, and it is therefore a question of much importance, whether some institution, intermediate between a prison and a lunatic asylum, but conducted more on the principles of the latter than the former, should not be had recourse to for the treatment of this particular class of cases.

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MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Medical Officer's Report.

I am aware that the suggestion has been before made by the Medical Officer of the Philipstown prison, and I consider it well worthy of adoption. A good deal of attention has been of late directed to the more obscure mental disorders of criminals; and I purpose in a more convenient form than this report affords me, to make use of the facts which have come under my notice, for their better illustration.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

AWLY BANON.

The Chairman and Directors, Government Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

35, Nelson-street,
January 9, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past year I have continued in the convict prison the course which I mentioned in my last report I was pursuing.

I have performed Divine Service and preached on Sundays, and have held a week-day catechetical lecture. I have attended one day at least in each week, for the purpose of conversing with the prisoners individually, and I have visited irregularly at suitable times the schools, the hospitals, and those in punishment.

With reference to the Church services and instruction, I have to report that the prisoners are remarkably attentive, and that their demeanour on these occasions is such as would reflect credit upon any congregation. The Superintendent mentioned to me more than once, that they wished for a second week-day lecture. I have not complied with their request, as I think it possible to *undo* by *overdoing*. In addition to the instruction already mentioned as being given, each prisoner attends for this purpose once a week; always the same lady visitor, attends school daily, and provision has been made for prayers morning and evening. The lady visitors constantly express to me the pleasure they feel in visiting the prisoners: they are much interested in the remedial system, and the prisoners frequently speak of the profit, pleasure, comfort, and encouragement, which they derive from their benevolent instructors.

I find visiting, especially for the purpose of conversing with the prisoners and being consulted by them, prized by them and satisfactory to myself. In connexion with this, I beg leave to bring under your notice the rule, "That the Chaplain shall visit daily those in punishment," as being one which, if observed, would, I know, be subversive of the effect designed by the prison discipline. Were I to visit those in punishment daily, when their evil tempers are provoked, I should only give them an opportunity of exclaiming against the matrons, telling of their imaginary wrongs, perhaps threatening revenge, and so prolonging their punishment. It is, therefore my practice to visit those in punishment when requested by them or by the Superintendent, &c., to do so, generally, to let them feel that they are abandoned at such a time; but it is invariably my practice, immediately, or some little time after, to see them when they can be induced to reflect, to acknowledge that their punishment was deserved, and express a determination to avoid its cause for the time to come. The idea that the Chaplain should interfere in their behalf with reference to the discipline is now never entertained. It is gratifying to have to remark that, so far as I know, perfect harmony has prevailed among the officers of the prison, and that there seems to be a hearty co-operation among all for the one object.

I have had the cordial support of the Superintendent upon all occasions when necessary; the principal matron also, has given to me her valuable assistance. The matrons generally appear to be interested in their duties, and they would need to be so—their duties are not light, and their patience is often sorely tried. It is no easy matter to train to industrial habits those who have lived in vice and idleness until they were imprisoned, and to obtain from them the quantity and quality of the work demanded. With reference to the schools, I have only to say, that the ability and assiduity of the teachers are unquestionable, and the improvement of many of the pupils is very remarkable. I have much satisfaction in visiting the hospital, the matron is kind and attentive, and affords me every facility to discharge my duty.

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In my whole intercourse with those under my care, I am ever anxious to bring into exercise their own sense of right and wrong, to seize upon passing circumstances to teach them what they ought to think, the feelings they should cherish, and how they must act in order to succeed. I find my opinions respected, my advice followed, my rebuke feared. The anxiety of the prisoners about their classification is very great. No punishment seems to be dreaded so much as the loss of character; and when it occurs that any of them forfeit the privilege of going to the Refuge, they conceive their chance of a start in the world again to be lost. MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON. *Protestant Chaplain's Report.*

I have observed in this my first year, that the prison character is an excellent test. I attempted, in the case of two, who were leaving the prison directly, being disqualified for the Refuge, to obtain for them employment. I succeeded, but found them undeserving; four, who left the Refuge for situations, are going on satisfactorily, as you will see by the letters which I subjoin.

I cannot conclude this report without recording that I am very deeply sensible of your kindness to myself, which, I beg leave to assure you, has been to me a source of very considerable gratification.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

DAVID STUART, Protestant Chaplain.

To the Chairman and Directors of
Government Prisons.

January 7, 1860.

DEAR SIR,—In answer to your inquiry, I state that M. W——, is still in my service. Concerning her conduct, I have no blame against her; she is a young girl willing and obliging, but must be kept under a strict surveillance of a good mistress; and I have no doubt, under such guidance, she will be a useful member of society.

Hoping I have satisfied your inquiry,

I remain yours, respectfully.

January 9, 1860.

DEAR SIR,—B. C—— is going on favourably.

Yours, truly.

Dublin, 21st day of December, 1859.

DEAR MR. STUART,—I am sure you will be happy to hear that the two prisoners in whom you took an interest have conducted themselves in the most satisfactory manner possible. C—— has gone to Australia, after serving me faithfully (as nurse) for some months. O—— is still in my service as thorough servant, she is surely one of the most honest women I ever met with. She is respected by all her fellow servants, and a pattern to all for estimable conduct.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAINS' REPORTS.

Roman Catholic Chaplains' Reports.

55, Eccles-street,
January 6, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my Report of the Mountjoy Female Prison for the year ending 31st December, 1859. It affords me great pleasure to be enabled to state, for the information of the Directors, and of all who are interested in the present system of convict discipline, as adopted in Ireland, that the uniform good conduct of the prisoners during the past year has given the Rev. Mr. Dempsey and myself the greatest satisfaction, and has amply repaid us for any services we have been able to render to them.

There are more than 400 R. C. prisoners in Mountjoy, and all, with scarcely any exception, have attended their religious duties regularly during the last year. Adhering to the system of classification adopted in the prison, we appointed days for each class, and made such arrangements as enabled us to hear the confessions of all the prisoners in the course of a month. The result of this arrangement was, that the average number of communicants amounted to more than 100 each week. Another result arising from this plan was, that our special

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MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Roman Catholic Chaplains' Reports.

attention could be easily directed towards any of the prisoners, who, through neglect or other causes, might absent themselves from the sacraments on the days fixed for their classes, and an opportunity was afforded us of giving them good advice, and of exhorting them to follow the example of their fellow-prisoners. No words from us could give adequate expression to the docility and readiness with which the prisoners attended to our instructions. In order to give a clear idea of what has been done, I beg to submit the following programme of the various duties performed by us. Two masses are celebrated on all Sundays and holidays, and instructions given in each mass. The prisoners are assembled three times a week for catechetical instruction. They hear mass on all Wednesdays and Fridays, and on days of special devotion. Confessions are heard on all Fridays and Saturdays. This plan, as laid down in the programme, we are happy to say, has worked most beneficially, and has produced the best results. It has, in particular, given us an opportunity of examining and ascertaining the character and dispositions of the prisoners, and of carrying out a principle which is looked upon by those who have devoted any thought to the subject, as indispensably necessary for the thorough reformation of the prisoner—we mean the principle of individualization. It is not for us to say how far we have made this principle practically useful in reforming the prisoner: we refer to it rather with the view of showing that we appreciate its importance, and do not overlook the many advantages arising from its adoption. But it is chiefly in the confessional that we recognise our labours to have been specially successful. For here the poor prisoner is invited to penetrate the inmost recesses of her heart, to confess her guilt, and to resolve on abandoning, then and for ever, a career which, if persevered in, would lead her to eternal perdition.

The graces received in the sacrament of penance encourage and strengthen her in carrying out this resolution, and rescue her from her misery and degradation, and makes her once more a child of God and an object of complacency to Him. Remembering, therefore, that we are ministers of Him who came to call, not the just, but sinners, to repentance, and being dispensers of His divine mysteries, we deemed it our duty to attend to the confessional; and we thank God from the inmost of our hearts for the blessings and favours with which he has been pleased to crown our labours. The Rev. Mr. Dempsey and I, as you are already aware, have jointly discharged the duties of the chaplaincy; and I avail myself of this opportunity to say, that to his sound judgment and great experience I am indebted for many practical suggestions which have directed our united efforts in behalf of the prisoners entrusted to our care. Nor can I pass over the invaluable services of the Sisters of Mercy, who have shared so largely in our solicitude, and taken so prominent a part in effecting the moral improvement of the prisoners, by instructing them and preparing them to receive the sacraments of the Holy Catholic Church.

Their visits have been most frequent and constant during the past year, and their instructions have made the deepest impression on the minds of the prisoners, and have not failed to imbue them with religious sentiments, which I trust shall never be effaced. Neither can I avoid mentioning the intermediate establishment at Golden Bridge, under the care of the same religious sisters, affording as it does the means of exciting a spirit of emulation amongst the prisoners, and of rewarding those who have been distinguished for good conduct during the period of their detention. So much importance is to be attached to the existence of this establishment, that I look upon it as quite essential to the working of a proper and effective system of convict discipline, and know it to exercise a wonderful influence on the conduct of the prisoners. Often have I heard them expressing their fears lest, through a trivial fault of which they had been guilty, they might be debarred from enjoying the benefits of the Refuge, and be deprived of the happiness of remaining for some time under the care of the sisters. Often have I been asked to interpose in their behalf, and to use my influence in order to avert so dreadful a calamity. It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of this Reformatory, the hope of admission into which works so effectually on the prisoners, and renders their conduct so uniform and correct. Suffice it to say, that their desire and exertions to gain admission into this establishment are only equalled by the respect and religious veneration which they entertain for the sisters. There is another advantage offered in this institution, and it is that the Sisters of Mercy make it their business to provide many of the well-conducted

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MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Roman Catholic Chaplains' Reports.

prisoners with situations, while others, through their kind influence, are restored to their families, bringing peace and happiness to many desolate homes.

I have frequently visited the schools during the year, and I am very happy to bear my humble testimony to the admirable manner in which they are managed. The prisoners are treated with the greatest kindness; are taught to read and write; and many of them make great progress in the other elementary branches of a literary education. Their desire to profit by the instructions given in the schools is indeed most encouraging, and cannot but be attended with the best results. The schoolmistresses are most attentive and untiring in their exertions, and for talents and ability are fully qualified to discharge the duties of their position and office. Indeed, the fact of having provided so respectable a staff of teachers is creditable to the Directors, and speaks much for their zeal in promoting the true interests of the prisoners. While on this subject I cannot avoid referring with pleasure to the infant school, which has been established this year, and from which I am happy to find that the children have derived great benefit. They are taught and trained to habits of industry by their excellent schoolmistress, while their removal from their mothers has contributed very much in establishing good order and discipline in the prison at large.

Our visits to the hospital have been almost daily. Taking into account the large number of prisoners, I think that the average number of sick is not considerable. The poor creatures are much comforted and consoled by our visits, and hail our appearance amongst them with delight. In the course of the last year three of our flock departed this life; but we have every reason to hope, from their patience and calm resignation at the hour of death, that they are now numbered amongst the blessed in heaven. I may add that it affords the greatest consolation to the prisoners to assist at the prayers and at the masses said for the repose of the souls of their departed companions.

The kindness and attention of the matron in charge of the hospital has won for her the love and affection of the sick, and her charity towards them has contributed very much towards the alleviation of their pains and sufferings.

I have also to record my many obligations to the Superintendent and the other officers of the prison, through whose kindness and good offices we have been able to discharge our duties, and who on all occasions were ready to afford us every assistance in their power. Indeed, to the zeal and energy of the matrons I am bound to attribute much of the good that has been done, whilst I am convinced that the good feeling which has happily existed in the prison is in great measure due to their exertions in maintaining order and discipline. I think, also, that the discretion with which the chaplains of various denominations have acted, and the caution with which they wisely abstained from interfering with any but their own flock, has tended to bring about and maintain the concord which prevails in the establishment. I must acknowledge that when first I had the honour of being appointed Chaplain, I was filled with alarm, not only on account of the large number of prisoners, but also on account of the varied and extensive machinery necessary for the efficient working of so vast an establishment. It was not to be expected that peace would at all times characterize the conduct of women, some of whom had been convicted for serious offences, and that occasional outbreaks would not take place in so large an institution. However, the experience of the past year has removed those fears, and we may state as a matter of fact that a single instance of a general disturbance, or an attempt at a mutiny of a serious character, has not occurred since the opening of the prison. This happy state of things cannot but afford gratification to the Directors, while it gives me an opportunity of congratulating the worthy Superintendent who is charged with the responsibility of the entire prison, on the order and discipline which exist therein, and on her admirable management of so extensive an establishment.

You will allow me, in conclusion, gentlemen, to thank you for your kindness to me on all occasions, and to assure you of the great respect with which I have the honour to remain,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES MURRAY.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

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Mountjoy Prison,
Jannary 1, 1860.

MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

Roman Catholic Chaplains' Reports.

GENTLEMEN,—You are pleased to call upon me, as one of the Roman Catholic Chaplains attending this prison, to make my report; and I have the honour to present it accordingly. In contributing a part towards preparing the female convicts for their restoration to liberty, my anxiety has been to bring them under the influence of religion, inculcating, on fit occasions, as essential to moral change, obedience to the laws of the institution in which they are placed, and respect for authority. I am associated in the chaplainey with the Very Rev. Dr. Murray; we labour together cordially, and have the consolation to hope that our labours have produced good fruits. In the range of duties performed by us are included all that can be deemed essential; and, while ministering to the spiritual necessities of those committed to our care, and who are the objects of our solicitude, we scrupulously avail ourselves of the hours understood to be the most convenient to the prison discipline, so well considered in its details, and so reformatory in its nature. In our spacious chapel we celebrate two masses on Sundays and festivals—one at a quarter to seven o'clock, the other at eight o'clock. At each mass holy communion is administered to many, and religious instruction given in the simplicity of style suited to humble hearers. We also celebrate two masses during the week—namely, one on Wednesday and one on Friday. The classes are divided between the masses on Sunday and between the days for mass during the week; and thus order is more easily maintained. The demeanour of our poor people coming to the house of prayer, while in it, and returning from it, is irreproachable. No doubt they are greatly indebted for their propriety to the untiring and vigilant care of the Superintendent. The convicts are found very often to need elementary instruction in religion, and to receive it are sent at our request, in the order of their classes, three days in the week, to the instruction room; monitresses accompany them, to ask from the approved catechism a series of questions, while one of us alternately presides to explain, without controversy, the Christian doctrine. The Sisters of Mercy visit this prison, and their visits are to be highly appreciated; for the pious teachings of such as the Sisters of Mercy never fail to make an impression on the heart of the female who has erred. We exhort unceasingly to repentance; we call all to confession in the course of each month; and when we find them humble and contrite, admit them to sacraments. We enter, every Sunday, in our journal, the number of those to whom we had on that day given holy communion.

In visits to the hospital consists a duty of chaplains not the least important. We perform that duty. We visit the hospital daily, to hear betimes the confessions of the sick, to administer, when necessary, last sacraments to the dying, and to impart to all words of consolation and of hope. In this department the confined sick have, considering that they are convicts, great comfort. Their matron shows them every attention, exercises true compassion, and appears to possess their hearts. In our hands, too, they yield to religious feeling, and fervently pray for our reward hereafter. Everything that charity can suggest, or prudence sanction, appears to be done here. Ignorance is a fruitful cause of crime; and many of the females within these walls became the victims of crime because first they were the victims of ignorance; not comprehending the evil of their own deeds, suffered to pass years knowing no law but their own will, and under no influence save that of strong passion. To remove their ignorance and to counteract its effects, religious instruction is amply given, and next to it in advantage secular education is provided. The thought of having schools in a prison was mercifully conceived; and in this the schools are well conducted. In the school for the adults a proficiency in many instances is made, incredible only to those who witness it. In the infant school, also, the little innocents will answer questions suited to their age with a precision and accuracy at once gratifying and astounding. In this prison there is no interference on the part of one minister of religion with the flock of another, and hence peace is in full reign, and charity never suffers. In the discharge of our duties as Chaplains we meet nothing to impede us, and are ever treated with courtesy. For the kind attention even of the inferior officers I feel grateful.

And am, Gentlemen, with great respect, your very faithful servant,
The Directors of Convict Prisons. LUKE DEMPSEY, R. C. Chaplain.

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PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

MOUNTJOY FEMALE CONVICT PRISON.

45, Eccles-street, Dublin,
January 10, 1860.

Presbyterian Chaplain's Report.

GENTLEMEN,—I have to report to you regarding the Presbyterian prisoners in the Mountjoy Female Convict Prison, committed to my care in April last, that their attention to the religious services has been most exemplary, and their progress in knowledge satisfactory. This I am able to ascertain in the week-day instruction, which is catechetical, whereby their minds are exercised, and I am able to determine to what extent they comprehend the subject under consideration.

Only two Presbyterian prisoners have left the prison since my appointment. The term of imprisonment of one having expired a few months ago, I was enabled to procure for her a suitable position, in which she receives judicious and appropriate instruction and encouragement; and so far, I am glad to say, her conduct has been better than I ventured to anticipate; while the other, who has gone to the Refuge (Harcourt Road), gives the utmost satisfaction to the matron.

I am thankful to say that no serious case of misconduct or illness has called for special pastoral visitation during the time I have been officiating, and I have the pleasure of adding, that I have had every facility afforded me by all the officers of the prison for the comfortable and satisfactory discharge of my duties as Presbyterian Chaplain.

I beg to remain, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

J. HALL.

To the Directors of Prisons in Ireland.

SCHOOLMISTRESS' REPORT.

Schoolmistress' Report.

Mountjoy Female Prison,
January 5, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—Conformably to your instructions, I beg to submit to your notice my first Annual Report on the school department of the Mountjoy Female Prison.

In the course of the past year, 424 prisoners have been under instruction. In reference to their conduct, it gives me much pleasure to state that they have conducted themselves most creditably.

I cannot but refer to the admirable order and discipline of this vast institution, by means of which the influence of the teacher is most fully aided and supported, and her opportunities for usefulness left completely unfettered.

I allude to the matrons' being required to remain in charge of their several classes during school-hours, so that the business of tuition proceeds without the slightest interruption.

At the suggestion of the Superintendent the school-hours have been changed, school business commencing at 8 A.M. This arrangement, together with the prisoners' being classified according to their conduct, has been productive of the most gratifying results.

The moral influence of this training is most obvious, prisoners being, on the whole, anxious for instruction, and ambitious for those "conduct marks" which entitle them to promotion.

From this state of things the happiest results may, with the Divine blessing, be anticipated.

I am happy to inform you that the District Inspector, Mr. Coyle, has, during his visits, expressed his approbation of the conduct and proficiency of the inmates.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

MARY DENVIR.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Castle, Dublin.

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Directors' Report.

SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

We have so often explained the details of the system pursued in the Intermediate Prisons, that we think it unnecessary to again enter into them.

We are perfectly satisfied with the results which have accrued through its establishment, and with the manner in which the officers perform their duties.

The conduct of the convicts (including in very many cases those whose early prison misconduct, and want of self-command, have been the means of detaining them in prison a long period after others similarly sentenced have been discharged), has been excessively good, with the exception of a few who were removed to the ordinary prisons. They have evinced most willing industry, and in many cases at the "Lusk Farm," when it has been for the good of the public service to require extra hours of labour from the prisoners, those hours have been cheerfully given by them.

It was stated in the last report that the land at Lusk had been so impoverished, ill-farmed, and neglected, that a considerable period would elapse before favourable crops could be produced. Some portion of it is now being rapidly improved, and road-making and draining progressing satisfactorily. A great desire is evinced on the part of those convicts who have became good agricultural labourers, to emigrate and take their labour to a market which requires it, and to a country in which their temptations will be lessened. A large number have carried out this desire on liberation.

WALTER CROFTON, *Chairman.*

J. LENTAIGNE, I. S. WHITTY, } *Directors.*

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

29, Trinity College, Dublin, January 23, 1860.

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant having most kindly appointed me Episcopalian Chaplain of Smithfield Intermediate Prison, on the 13th of September last, my remarks must be limited to the time which has elapsed since that date.

I have at all times found the Protestant prisoners most attentive, earnest, and amenable. They manifest a sincere interest in the services of the Church, joining in the responses, and taking the people's part in the ritual in a manner calculated to give life and spirit to the whole. In conversation with them I have ever found them anxious and inquiring, but without any exaggerated display of feeling. They are, I sincerely believe, most grateful for the means of reformation afforded to them, and for that "law of kindness" with which they are managed. I have not the slightest reason to doubt that, when their period of probation is over, they will be found leading a new life, and living in charity with all men.

As Smithfield is an Intermediate Prison, the number of Protestant prisoners has varied much since I was appointed to the Chaplaincy. The average attendance at Church service is about seven. On Christmas Day the Communion was administered to four communicants.

It may not be out of place to express my admiration, not only of the principles, but of the administration of discipline, as carried out in Smithfield Prison. The diminution of crime throughout Ireland, and the absence of re-committals, are the best tests of the efficiency of the present system of convict discipline.

I am, Gentlemen, yours obediently,

GEORGE B. WHEELER, A.M., Resident Master in University of Dublin.

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ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

Saint Paul's, Arran-quay,
January 16, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—In sending you this year my report of the Smithfield Reformatory for the past year, I am glad to be able still to bear testimony to the beneficial effects of the system of classification and merit carried on in that institution. Every day's experience shows in clearer views the great advantages of the present system, which, while it has proved that mercy and kindness are oftentimes more suitable instruments in the hands of authority to reform the convict's heart, will, I hope, confer undying honours on those who originated and adopted it. My report must be necessarily brief, for my duties, being principally of a spiritual kind, leave scarcely an opportunity for many remarks; yet I must say, in justice to the convicts committed to my care during the past year, their conduct has been satisfactory to me and very creditable to themselves; their regularity, their anxiety to acquire religious and secular knowledge, their attention and edifying deportment during the periods allotted to the important duties of religion, speak loudly in their praise. And it is a great consolation for those whose duty is the reformation of the erring brother, to know that the good habits of virtue, industry, and honesty acquired in the reformatory are not cast away when liberty is granted, but are preserved amid the strong temptations to be met with in the intercourse of social life. This appears from the fact that, though a great number have been discharged during the last year, but few, to my knowledge, have so offended as to incur the penalty of forfeiting their tickets-of-leave, but have nobly endeavoured to earn an honest support, and won the esteem of their employers by their good conduct.

Before I conclude I must thank you, Gentlemen, for the promptitude with which you supplied the religious books, and every other requisite required by me for the performance of my duties; I must also express my sincere acknowledgements to Mr. Good, the Superintendent, and the other officers, for their kind attention and constant courtesy to me since I became connected with the Smithfield Reformatory.

Believe me, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

THOMAS NOLAN.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons.

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Presbyterian Chaplain's Report.

Palmerston-place, Dublin,
February 20, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past year the usual religious services, for which I am responsible, were maintained in the Smithfield Government Prison. The attention and deportment of the men on the Lord's Day, during divine service, was both respectful and satisfactory. Their expressions of regret on account of past misconduct, as elicited on my week-day visits, and their laudable intention to pursue a wiser course in the future, have been to me a source of much satisfaction. In conforming to the discipline of the service, and in carrying out the wishes of their superiors, no unwillingness has, so far as I am aware, been in any respect exhibited; and, upon the whole, I am happy to be able to report more favourably of the past than of any previous year since I became connected with the service.

I remain, Gentlemen, yours very respectfully,

JAMES EDGAR, Presbyterian Chaplain.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Medical Officer's Report.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit the report on the sanitary state of the intermediate prisons at Smithfield and Lusk for the past year.

The following table gives a general view of the movement in the hospital of the prisons during this period:—

No. of patients in hospital, 1st January, 1859,	2
No. admitted in the year,	84
	86
Of these there were discharged cured,	82
Remaining in hospital, 31st December,	4
	86

No death occurred during the year.

Daily average number of prisoners in confinement,	99·36
Daily average number of patients in hospital,	3·96

Diseases with which the patients admitted to hospital were affected.

Catarrh,	19	Deafness,	1
Bronchitis,	10	Swelled testicle,	3
Pleuritis,	1	Piles,	3
Asthma,	3	Boils,	2
Consumption,	4	Whitlow,	3
Diarrhœa,	6	Ulcers,	2
Dyspepsia,	6	Sprained knee,	1
Rheumatic pains,	8		
Skin diseases,	2		84
Ophthalmia,	10		

The preceding hospital returns show satisfactorily that the remarkable improvement, in a sanitary point of view, which has been observed in the prisons, from the introduction of the reformatory system of management, has been well maintained in the past year.

The diseases that occurred were of the most ordinary character. The common colds, catarrhal and bronchitic coughs, rheumatic pains, diarrhœa, and ophthalmia, which constitute more than two-thirds of all the sickness of the year, are maladies from which, in our changeful climate, the convict only suffers in common with every other class of the community; while the remaining cases are made up chiefly of local ailments of no great importance, and a few slight accidental injuries.

Moreover, the diseases that prevailed were, in almost every instance, of a mild type, uncomplicated and easily curable. All the ophthalmia occurred in persons who had previously suffered from inflammation of the eyes, but none were of a serious character.

On the other hand, no case of epidemic or contagious disease, nor, indeed, of any of the diseases of the zymotic class, occurred in the prisons, though small-pox, typhus fever, and scarlatina, prevailed to a considerable extent throughout the city during the past year.

These facts afford the most satisfactory evidence of the sanitary state of the prisons as well as of the general health of the prisoners; and in estimating their value it will be borne in mind that all the prisoners confined in those prisons had undergone long periods of imprisonment (about four and a-half years, on the average) previous to their committal here.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

THOMAS BRADY.

To the Chairman and Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Superintendent's Report.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour of laying before you my report and statistical returns for this prison and Lusk Branch for the year 1859. In doing so I have great pleasure in being able to state the continued satisfactory working of both establishments. On reference it will be found that 92 prisoners were released on licence, and 152 penal servitude cases whose periods had expired, making a total of 245 prisoners, who passed through this prison, including Lusk Branch during the past year, exclusive of the number now undergoing their probation both here and at Lusk. Of the ninety-two prisoners released on licence three had their licences revoked (one of whom was for being found under the influence of liquor and known to be living an irregular life.) Those residing in the county and city of Dublin are as usual reported on by the Lecturer; and it is gratifying to find that out of the ninety-eight who are at large in the county and city, including penal servitude cases, so many are going on steadily and giving their employers perfect satisfaction. I am aware that some of them are saving from their wages the means of emigrating to some of our colonies in the spring; of those released on licence as well as the penal servitude men, I see a continued disposition to emigrate and abandon their old associates. Indeed, I know that a great many of them, although with very little means, went abroad also. One of them (L. C.) who emigrated in June last has written two letters, in the latter of which he asked for the address of two of his sons, as he is able and willing to pay their passage out for the purpose of joining him. Some men released on licence are in different parts of Ireland under the surveillance of the police; and it is truly gratifying to hear how satisfactorily they are going on, as well from official reports of them as from their respective clergymen, to whom I feel indebted for the information I received, as well as the interest they take in assisting them by their kind advice and efforts. As a proof of this I beg to annex the following letters, one of which is from a prisoner now nearly four years on licence:—

E——, January 9, 1860.

MY DEAR SIR,—Some days since I received your letter of inquiry regarding P. W., to which I could not satisfactorily reply as I had not then seen him for many months. From the kind interest you feel in the poor fellow, you will be pleased to hear that he has returned to E. on Tuesday last; his conduct for the past four years has been excellent. W. is unfit for labour, as his hand is disabled; he supports himself by selling through the country such small articles as may be required; he desires me express to you his sincere gratitude for your recollection of him.

Very truly yours,

J. K., P.P.

Mr. Francis Good.

D——, December 28, 1859.

MY DEAR SIR,—Poor J. H. happened to be from home for the last three or four days; I waited his return before answering your most kind letter; the poor fellow feels most grateful for your kind inquiries of him; he and his brother form a firm in buying goat-skins, and his wife is generally employed in bringing heath from the mountains, which J. makes into brooms for the market; notwithstanding their industry they are very poor. May God bless you for your kind inquiries.

Yours most respectfully,

D. O. S., P.P.

Mr. F. Good.

It is encouraging to find that the manufacturing department here, as will be seen by the return appended to this report, as well as the agricultural and building operations at Lusk branch, continue to go on most satisfactorily, notwithstanding that many juveniles (received here from Mountjoy, and who have long periods to serve), were of very little assistance in the trades' department, and it is not likely that their work will add much to our profits until they have more experience. Indeed, I may here remark, that most of those received during the year, being penal servitude cases, had not the same experience as those who had served longer periods in the ordinary prisons, under the old Transportation Act. Still a great deal has been done under such circumstances, and I

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Superintendent's Report.

have reason to hope that many of those now here, who I see are anxious to learn their trades, will be able to earn their bread when discharged.

As a proof of this I beg to refer to the Lecturer's fortnightly report of those at present at large on licence, and penal servitude cases are employed by some of the most respectable shops in the city, besides others who are carrying on business on their own account, and thereby are supporting themselves with credit and comfort.

With reference to the conduct of the prisoners both here and at Lusk, only eight breaches of discipline took place, some of them being of a trifling nature. Yet, for example's sake, those men were remanded to an ordinary prison to undergo a longer probation. The messengers continue to give the fullest satisfaction, and in only one instance did any of them swerve from his duty, and that was by attempting to bring a prohibited article into the prison. Indeed, it is a wonderful thing to think of those prisoners walking (daily) through the public streets of Dublin, and never yielding to any temptation; never idling or outstaying their time, but delivering their messages with perfect correctness, and then returning to their prison with a punctuality which is most creditable to them and truly surprising, when one thinks that these walks are the first which they had taken with freedom —in fact, at liberty—for years.

The prisoners continue to receive 6*d.* per week out of their earnings, and I find they evince every disposition to spend it to advantage—for instance, in the purchase of articles of clothing that will be useful to them on their discharge. These purchases, as usual, continue to be made by the messengers on duty; and I have never seen an instance where such trust was betrayed, but, on the contrary, every one of them are anxious to assist and lay the money out to the best advantage; neither has there been an instance of a dispute between them on the subject.

There is an exception to the above in the case of the juveniles received from Mountjoy. These only receive 1½*d.* per week, and half earnings, until they arrive at the respective periods of being eligible for removal to an intermediate prison; thenceforward they receive 3*d.* and full earnings.

The daily routine is as follows:—

They rise each morning at five o'clock (winter and summer), and after removing their cell buckets make up their bedding, after which they wash and clean themselves, and are mustered at half-past five o'clock for prayers. At six o'clock they commence work, and continue until five o'clock in the afternoon (allowing three-quarters of an hour for breakfast and one hour for dinner and exercise), at which time they go to school and lecture, where they remain until seven p.m., after which they go to supper. This being over they read and take exercise in the yard, and are locked up in separation for the night, at half-past eight o'clock.

Prisoners when released on licence, or unconditionally discharged, without a necessity is shown, only receive £2, the balance is afterwards paid by instalments on the certificate of their respective Clergymen, or the Head-Constable of the district in which they reside, that they require it for proper purposes. The same observance applies to those released or discharged in town, the Lecturer reporting fortnightly on them.

In conclusion, I again feel great pleasure in bearing testimony to the unanimity and good feeling which continues to prevail amongst the officers of both prisons, and who have used their best endeavours to promote the welfare of the prisoners both while here and when discharged; but regret the loss of the Rev. Mr. Shore (Protestant Chaplain), who was transferred to the Mountjoy Male Prison in August last. During his services, for a period of over fifteen years (since this became a Government Prison), he always took a lively interest in the establishment; and since it has been changed to an intermediate one, he made himself particularly useful in promoting the interests of the prisoners while here and when discharged.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

F. GOOD.

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Superintendent's Report.

Account showing the Productive Labour of Prisoners for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

	Cost of Materials.			Sales.			Stock in Store.			Profit.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Tailoring,	1,645	16	10	1,284	4	11	795	4	1	433	12	2
Shoemaking,	500	4	3	583	12	1	203	13	8	287	1	6
Matmaking,	41	0	7	34	12	4	7	17	10	1	9	7
Smiths and nailers,	21	0	10	22	14	1	11	6	0	12	19	3
Carpentry,	41	9	4	46	3	8	25	10	9	30	5	1
Masons,	0	9	0	2	2	6		—		1	13	6
Netmaking,	16	14	4	14	9	2	19	18	9	17	13	7
Brushmaking,	34	6	6	32	10	6	38	12	7	36	16	7
Mattressmaking,	53	13	1	79	4	0	19	14	8	45	5	7
Tin ware,	30	19	0	17	15	0	21	5	6	8	1	6
Glazing,	4	0	0	31	2	7	1	6	2	28	8	9
Piggery,	26	17	9	46	14	0	8	0	0	27	16	3
	2,416	11	6	2,195	4	10	1,152	10	0	931	3	4*
Fifteen fatigue men cooking, messing, pumping water, lime-washing, repairing yards, sewers, &c., fifty-two weeks, at 8s.,		—			—			—		312	0	0†
Forty-seven prisoners at Lusk Branch, subsoiling, draining, building, &c., fifty-two weeks, at 9s.,		—			—			—		1,099	16	0†
Total,										2,342	19	4

N.B.—By adding the Sales and Stock together, and deducting the cost of Materials, you will find the profits.

Daily average number at Smithfield,	51
Less sick,	3
	48
Daily average number at Lusk,	47

Francis Good, Superintendent.

Gentlemen,—I hereby certify that during my service I have, to the best of my knowledge and belief, complied with all the rules laid down for the government of this establishment for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

Francis Good, Superintendent.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

* Work produced by thirty-three tradesmen, some of whom were unskilled workmen. Average earning of each, £28 4*s.* 4*d.*

† The sums, £312 and £1,099 16*s.* combined give an average of £22 15*s.* 5*d.*

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Superintendent's Report.

STATEMENT of the number of Convicts in Custody, Committed and Disposed of, for one year ending 31st December, 1859.

In Custody, 1st January, 1859,		105
Received from Spike Island Prison,		156
,, Philipstown Prison,		57
,, Mountjoy Male Prison,		26
		344
How disposed of:—		
Released on orders of licence,	93	
Discharged, sentences completed,	152	
Removed to Mountjoy Male Prison,	10	—255
In Custody, 1st January, 1860,		89

AGES on Conviction of the Prisoners received during the year.

12 years and under 16,	16
16 ,, ,, 20,	86
20 ,, ,, 30,	90
30 ,, ,, 40,	33
40 ,, ,, 50,	9
50 ,, ,, 60,	4
60 and upwards,	1
Total,	239

SENTENCES of the Prisoners received during the year.

3 years' Penal Servitude,	10
4 ,, ,,	119
6 ,, ,,	16
10 ,, ,, (commuted to 3 years),	1
7 years' Transportation,	1
10 ,, ,,	28
14 ,, ,,	14
15 ,, ,,	50
Total,	239

CRIMES of the Prisoners received during the year.

Assault,	4	Highway robbery,	9
Assault to endanger life,	4	Intent to steal,	1
Assault and robbery,	4	Larceny,	36
Arson (Workhouse, &c.),	16	Larceny, and previous conviction,	9
Attempting arson,	2	Having goods in possession known to be stolen,	1
Accessory to felony,	1	Manslaughter,	7
Burglary,	38	Mutinous conduct,	1
Burglary and robbery,	27	Obtaining goods under false pretences,	3
Burglary and felony,	5	Perjury,	1
Burglary and assault,	2	Picking pockets,	5
Burglary and larceny,	2	Robbing,	2
Burglary and shooting at,	1	Receiving stolen goods,	9
Cow stealing,	5	Shooting at,	2
Cutting and wounding, with intent to maim,	1	Sheep stealing,	5
Cattle stealing,	2	Striking superior officer,	1
Desertion, and making away with necessaries,	1	Setting fire to wheat,	1
Embezzlement,	2	Sacrilege,	1
Felony,	12	Unlawful assembly, and taking fire-arms,	1
Felony, subsequent to a conviction for felony,	3	Uttering base coin and stabbing,	1
Felonious assault,	1	Total,	239
Forgery,	6		
Horse stealing,	4		

Daily average number at Smithfield,	51·59
Less ,, ,, ,, sick,	3·96
,, ,, Lusk,	47·80

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Superintendent's Report.

ABSTRACT of Expenditure under the several heads of Service for the year ending 31st December, 1859.

Head of Service.	Amount. £	s.	d.
Salaries,	1,329	13	10
Victualling, including officers' rations,	1,124	8	5
Fuel and light,	216	6	1
Furniture and repairs,	29	11	3
Contingencies,	67	10	3
Utensils,	15	8	11
Medicines and surgical instruments,	12	19	7
Medical comforts,	0	18	10
*Gratuities to prisoners on discharge,	1,651	3	4
*Travelling and sustenance of prisoners on discharge to their homes,	71	19	11
*Prisoners' clothing, discharged clothing, &c.,	1,013	5	0
Officers' travelling, including transit of prisoners,	36	14	0
Washing,	52	10	5
Cleaning prison,	52	10	7
Officers' clothing,	66	7	2
Advertising,	3	8	0
Bedding,	6	1	11
Rents, rates, and taxes,	10	0	0
	£3,760	17	6

FRANCIS GOOD, Superintendent.

LECTURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1859.

Lecturer's Report.

January 1, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to submit my Fourth Annual Report upon the Lusk and Smithfield Intermediate Prisons.

Referring to the statistical returns made out for the four years during which the Intermediate system is in operation, I find that 977 men have passed through these prisons, making upon an average 244 discharged each year. A return merely showing the number discharged would not be important if we could not place side by side it one, showing with a tolerable degree of accuracy, the number that found their way back to prison, and likewise the destinies of those who have succeeded in obtaining honest employment, and thus have become absorbed amongst the industrious and self-dependent poor.

As the present Report, however, is not intended to convey detailed statistical results for the past four years, I shall confine my observations to the statistics of the year just expired, at the same time observing that a record, such as that to which I have just alluded, is available for inspection at any time, being as accurately kept as circumstances would permit, by the Registrar to the Smithfield Prison.

At the commencement of the year 1859 there were 67 prisoners in Smithfield and 38 in Lusk. During the year there were 239 received between the two prisons, making a total of 344; and of this number 245 were discharged and 10 remanded to Mountjoy Prison, leaving a residue of 89 at present confined in these Intermediate Institutions. Of the 245 discharged, 10 are known to have relapsed—the *majority of* whom had been many times previously in prison; indeed, some had been not less than seventeen times re-convicted. Of those who found their way back to prison 3 were discharged on licence; the remainder were absolutely discharged, or, what are generally termed penal servitude-men, who, like all other criminals similarly sentenced, when their time had expired, felt themselves at liberty to act as they pleased; and who, I may observe, frequently look down upon their fellow-prisoners subject to surveillance after discharge with an air which must be witnessed to be understood.

* These items are large in consequence of the great majority of prisoners, with cumulative gratuities from other prisons, being discharged from Smithfield. In addition to this a very large number of prisoners from Bermuda, who have very large gratuities earned in that island, are also discharged from this prison. The travelling expenses of prisoners to their homes, discharged clothing, &c., are high for the same reason.

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Lecturer's Report.

Whatever may have been the opinions heretofore entertained as to the class of prisoners who pass through the Intermediate Prisons, with which I have the honour to be connected, it can be no longer doubted, that the worst of the criminal classes of the country have passed, and are passing through them at the present time.

The difficulty of reforming the class of convicts who have been discharged from Smithfield and Lusk during the past few years can only be estimated by those who are conversant with the dispositions of the demoralized, of the indolent, and of the depraved; who are thoroughly acquainted with characters trained from infancy in depravity and vice—creatures in the image of their God who never knew what it was to earn an honest penny; ignorant of all that is good or manly, and thus unfit to hold a place in the world amongst the struggling industrious poor. Frequently have I paused to gaze upon the various forms of expression presented by the countenances around me, and said to myself, how difficult, if not hopeless, is the task of the reformation of those beings. Here were to be found men and boys, whose low-browed and ill-favoured faces could not but strike any observing man, and afford him matter for reflection—serving, as many of them did, as indexes to their hearts, minds, and characters. Though discouraging, disheartening, and difficult the task of the improvement of such beings appeared, I was nevertheless induced to hope for some success, strengthened as I was through the results of my practical experience of the erring and of the lowly for years; but of course leaving myself a large margin for failure, which every man placed in a kindred position must always do. The character and condition of those around me were, as they ought to be, objects of solicitude, too great to allow of my being dismayed at occasional disappointments or unexpected failures. Hence it is that I still laboured and hoped, whilst I persevered in endeavouring to reach the hearts of those who, from early childhood, were debased by vicious and immoral habits. In order to acquire a knowledge of their hearts, and make myself acquainted with their future intentions, I have allowed no opportunity to pass by which I could accomplish so desirable an object.

The results of my experience amongst them in this way have long since led me to believe that a more perfect knowledge of the real character of prisoners can be acquired by close observation for the first few days after discharge, when they are free, and feel themselves uncontrolled and independent, than can be derived from any experience of them whilst inmates of a gaol. My *practical* experience of their characters, both inside and outside the prison, convinces me that the opinion I now advance is correct.

I say *practical* experience; and by it I mean experience of the man when exempt from the rules and discipline of prison life, that is when engaged at his work, or in his home, in sickness or in health, under circumstances disheartening or encouraging. To see him and hear him under such vicissitudes is, perhaps, one of the most important duties of my peculiar position; and when we meet thus, we talk over things past and present; and, parting with him, I never forget to remind him of the degradation and dishonour of a convict's position, and the gloom and unhappiness of a prison home; and should he murmur at being now and then compelled to feel privations, through want of employment or through illness, I take the opportunity to point out to him the patient endurance of the honest poor under circumstances quite as severe. Thus I prove to him how groundless are his causes of complaint when compared to those of men who never bore the brand of convict; and, should he express himself dissatisfied at the hardness of his work, or the wages as given him, I recall to him what he was, and what he is;—no half measures will do where a discharged convict murmurs or complains, because he suffers in his own person what the honest poor must, and do patiently endure.

No man, perhaps, has exerted himself in assisting the criminal before and after discharge more than I have done; but, by doing so, I never intended that the honest poor man should suffer from any exertions made by me on behalf of the lawless and dishonest. I am, and have always been, as willing, if not more so, to assist the poor man who submits to the dispensations of Providence with meekness and resignation, than I have been to succour or relieve those who, heedless of His commands and the laws which govern, protect, and hold society together, perpetrated those crimes against which God and man have raised their voice. If I have exerted myself more for the discharged prisoner than for the honest poor

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man, I have done so because in Ireland the latter had more powerful friends to minister to his wants.

The object which I had in contemplation from the commencement of my reformatory labours, was simply this—to separate the *impressible* from the *unimpressible* criminals; that the intermediate system has, in a very great measure, been effectual in achieving this end, few will deny; and, how far it has succeeded, and is succeeding, the great diminution of prisoners in our convict gaols demonstrates, in my mind fully, forcibly, and conclusively.

When I speak of the intermediate system being instrumental in bringing about so happy and so desirable a state of things, I do not demand for it more than that to which it can justly lay claim. I am bound here to add, in all justice to the officers of the various convict prisons from which men have been drafted to Smithfield, that the highest praise is due to each and all of them for the great care extended to the men who have come under my notice during the year. Smithfield and Lusk being more especially under my peculiar notice, I am bound in common honesty to state, that no officers could act with more zeal, discretion, and ability, than those in these institutions; and I do believe that no set of men ever more fully proved the results of sound prison discipline than those who have passed from the custody and care of these officers.

I may here state, that although persons may suppose the Irish convicts to be of a class very much less criminal in disposition than those of other countries, such a supposition is perfectly erroneous. I regret to state that I have had as bad a type of criminals to deal with, during the last three years, as any man in my position could possibly come in contact with; they were cases of the burglar and pickpocket type, each, in his way, being originally as bad as bad could be, yet had worked themselves up, through our graduated scheme of prison conduct, to the Intermediate Prisons.

In my last Report I submitted what appeared to me to be the course of literary instruction best adapted to the wants of criminals, that is, a course by which they were likely to benefit, in their various honest and industrial pursuits, when discharged from prison. However, it may not be inappropriate to make a few further remarks upon this subject.

It is frequently urged—and with some truth, I admit—that the inmates of our gaols receive an education in many respects superior to that generally obtainable by the children of the non-criminal poor. Allowing, for the sake of argument, that such is the case, surely it is not because those in whom is vested the power, and upon whom rests the responsibility of the intellectual training of the children of our industrious poor, but who, indifferent to their moral or intellectual culture, neglect their duty, that those who are more or less responsible for the reformation or the future well-being of the criminal classes, should neglect theirs. When the depraved youth comes to us ignorant and demoralized, are we to say to him, "You must remain in your wretched state of mental darkness; be reconciled to your degraded lot, for we cannot attempt to dispel the clouds of ignorance which envelope your faculties, or minister to your wants, whilst so many thousands of the children of honest, hard-working men, remain untaught, unheeded, and forsaken." Would not this be a curious excuse for neglecting the mental culture of those whom parental neglect or example, or the absence of all parental care, through orphanage, has consigned to a prison home?

Therefore, though I allow, and, I may add, lament the truth of the argument often used under this head, by way of censure upon those anxious for the reformation of the criminal, I must, at the same time, deny its force or its fairness; for I hold it affords no valid reason or excuse for the neglect of the education of our crime-stained fellow-creatures.

The system of education pursued in Smithfield is, in many of its features, peculiar, if not original; but whether it is such as would meet the approval of theorists, so far as the education of prisoners is concerned, I cannot, of course, presume to say. However, as I find it applicable, and suited to the requirements of the prisoners—approved by you, Gentlemen, and commended by some of the ablest and best of men—I am quite satisfied with its soundness and applicability. It has succeeded, and is succeeding, and that is all that is required.

I therefore cherish the hope that the simple and effectual system of intellectual training carried on in the Intermediate Prisons with which I have the honour to be connected, shall not be permitted to be interfered with, so long as it contri-

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

Lecturer's Report.

butes to obviate the difficulties in solving the perplexing question, "What shall we do with our convicts?" It is a system through which the depraved and degenerate, the idler and the thief, have received instruction with benefit and effect, whether in the house dedicated to the Most High, the school, or the workshop. It is a system by which the evil passions of their vitiated hearts and minds have not only been subdued, but in many cases entirely eradicated. It is a system, in fine, which provides for the moral, physical, and industrial wants of those men who, by their exemplary conduct in the ordinary prisons, become eligible for admission to the Intermediate Institutions; and not only this, but they are in all instances safely launched on the waters of life, provided for, and watched over: and though some of them, notwithstanding all this, have taken to their old criminal ways, we can say, honestly and truthfully, that the cause of their relapse rested not with us, but with themselves, thus proving that humanity whilst in prison, and kindness and assistance after discharge, availed nothing in their reformation, because they were *unimpressible;* but we must remember that as the great majority benefited by the system, so and through this did society, and so did the state. This is not only acknowledged here and in the Sister Island, but the most civilized and enlightened sections of Europe have long since extolled this—a system which has conferred so many boons upon the convict who shows that he is determined to work out his claim to a restoration to honest life.

Of course, Gentlemen, in the success of the system I can claim but a very humble part, having merely given effect to your directions; nor have I taken to myself any credit beyond that which an ordinary zealous officer might humbly but justly claim. I do not say that the proficiency of the men of Smithfield and Lusk is in any way very striking, for the work done is not to be estimated by their progress in reading, writing, or arithmetic—branches, nevertheless, in which I am most careful to have them practically instructed; but that they evince the greatest desire to embrace the opportunity afforded them for their mental advancement, is evident from the fact of many of them purchasing, out of the few pence allowed them weekly, useful and instructive books.

Their questions and answers, on Saturday evenings, afford further proof of their appreciation of the instruction imparted to them; but though our competitive examinations on those evenings are, in many instances, interesting and encouraging, I have always been somewhat apprehensive lest they should lead to mistaken opinions on the part of persons who might erroneously suppose that we attach too great importance to this feature of the course of instruction pursued in Smithfield, or were disposed to take the cleverness or aptness of the men, on these occasions, as a test of their reformation. Hence it is that I have at all times been careful to tell visitors what they see and hear inside the schoolroom must be taken for what it is worth, and no matter how great the intellectual display of the inmates, I consider it but a very imperfect test of their reformation. The test of a man's reformation, as I have invariably contended, is not to be found within, but without the prison walls, and to prepare them to stand this test is the principal but difficult object of our training and our care. In our earnest endeavours to accomplish this rests any credit which can be accorded to any or all of us. Therefore I hope it will be as clearly understood, as it is here plainly stated, that I consider the end of all demonstration or development of intellect, as far as convicts are concerned, but secondary and subordinate to the cultivation of the heart, and the moral and industrial formation of character. To this end, I repeat, the training and instruction given in the Intermediate Prisons tend; and if, by times, the subjects upon which I lecture to them appear difficult, abstruse, and inapplicable to men in their position, let it be remembered that simple expositions of Nature's laws and Nature's works will ever meet a favourable reception by, and afford salutary and edifying instruction to well-disposed prisoners, no matter how sunken or how illiterate. Therefore it is not the subject which should be considered by those considering the system so much as the manner in which instruction in the subject is communicated. Frequently has to me, as a lecturer to these men, a blade of grass, or a stone, a decayed, leafless branch, or a sod of turf, a running stream, a field of corn or a meadow, a passing cloud, a peal of thunder, or a flash of lightning, afforded subject matter for interesting lectures or discourses—simple, unpretending, but useful, practical, and instructive; because through these I was enabled to show the men the wisdom and the power of the great "Parent of Good." "Knowledge can

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be abstracted from a stone, science from a leaf, instruction from a ripple-mark, and 'from the barren sands of the sea-shore enjoyment of the purest character' —enjoyment arising from being able to apply one page of Nature's great volume to elucidate another, and to be able to read from both, when combined, that great lesson of humility—that lesson of practical insight into the wisdom of God's works, that teaches us to reverence, love, and adore the Great Ruler of all, as the source of all good, and as the fount whence we derive our greatest blessings."

To educate morally, intellectually, and industriously, the inmates of our gaols, in a manner compatible with their position, and paying proper attention to what they are, what they have been, and what they are probably to be; to do this in a prudent and judicious way, instead of having a crime-tending effect, must, in my mind, serve to inspire them with motives to honest exertion, to raise them above the sordid thoughts of crime, and make them wiser and better beings. But, deprive them of these advantages and these privileges, and you consign them to degradation by allowing their vicious habits to strengthen, and their criminal propensities ultimately to govern and enslave them; and when their time for discharge shall have arrived, they go again to prey upon the community, more experienced, more determined, more hardened, more reckless, and more depraved.

Now, whilst I feel convinced that the argument I am combating would tend to evil, I must at the same time observe, that we should prudently guard against giving to convicts an education incompatible with their position, because I fear if we overlook this we commit a grave and serious error, as over-educating criminals has, in my opinion, a tendency to create in them an aversion to hard labour, and to render them more liable to look upon their illiterate fellow-prisoners as beings inferior to them, though the hearts of the latter are frequently more susceptible of kindly advice, and, consequently, better and more hopeful subjects for reformatory treatment.

I am not, and I never was, an advocate for giving to the criminal a high literary education, and my views with regard to the system I should wish to see introduced into all workhouse and prison schools can be ascertained upon reference to an Essay of mine, and published by myself, entitled "Hints upon the Intellectual, Moral, and Industrial Training of the Inmates of Workhouses and Reformatories."

It is very gratifying to me, and I believe it will be equally so to you, gentlemen, to know that by far the great majority of the men who pass through the Intermediate Prisons are able to read, write, and cast accounts; and although simple this knowledge appears, I cannot over-estimate its importance to the well-disposed prisoner. This is a fact which redounds to the credit of those devoted and zealous teachers whose services you have been fortunate enough to procure.

The success of the intermediate system in Ireland is too generally acknowledged throughout Europe to call forth any comment or remark from me, but I cannot conceal the pleasure and satisfaction which I feel at its admitted success, more especially do I feel grateful to those distinguished men, Dr. Mittermaier and the Baron Von Holtzendorff, who have given such well-informed, and I may add, at the same time, ardent approval of the system. Never was a system beset with greater difficulties. Its success, in my mind, may be attributed to the following causes:—1st. The patronage of Lord Carlisle, whilst it remained in a state of embryo, struggling to maturity. 2nd. To the influence which that patronage exerted upon the prisoners, simply in showing them that there existed in the cold censorious world some, who though in high and exalted position, cared for them, and were interested in their future well-doing. 3rd. The conduct of the men themselves when they were discharged and trusted. 4th. The training they received whilst still in captivity. 5th, and last. The little assistance we were enabled to give them in starting them anew in the big and busy world; but what was still more important, the assistance they were able to give themselves by their prison earnings. The assistance we could give them was not an assistance of money—it consisted only in the fact that we could tell employers what they had been once, and what, now self-made and improved, they were. *The importance of the latter cannot be overrated.* To these causes, coupled with supervision after discharge, is, in my opinion, to be attributed the undeniable success which has attended the intermediate system in this country—a system

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franght with the happiest results to society and to the state; and though I admit that some have relapsed into their former evil and vicious courses, I find they are not so many as I had anticipated, yet, in justice to the vast majority of the men themselves, I must say that their endurance and self-denial, under many and trying circumstances, were such as can he only appreciated by those who are conversant with the details of the system, and acquainted with the struggles, strivings, and privations of the friendless and the poor. Often have I paused during my wanderings amongst them, to admire the effects of a system that could bring the once dreaded and reckless man to a state of such submission and resigontion. Frequently have I thought, that were the Legislature aware of the results of the licence system, they would hesitate hefore countenancing or sanctioning a scheme of prison discipline which permits the discharge of a convict prisoner without a licence before he shall have completed his full time. Discharging him with a licence is a reward for good conduct during imprisonment, whilst the conditions endorsed upon the ticket-of-licence are a salutary check and a constant reminder; and through these, and upon account of these, he grows gradually into the knowledge that freedom and honesty, if to be enjoyed at all, must be enjoyed at a price, namely, self-denial and self-dependence.

I ask your attention, Gentlemen, to the following remarks, hy which you and the Government can the better judge of the merits or demerits of a system which controls a prisoner after discharge, and one which leaves him free to act as he pleases when he leaves our prisons.

Let a man on licenco be unable to account for his way of living, and he is at once taken into custody; let him he addicted to intoxicating drinks, and he forfeits his liherty also: he knows and feels this, and hence he is forced into industrious and sober habits—not, perhaps, through the love of either, but through fear of the penalties to which an idle or intemperate life subjects him. On the other hand, the prisoner who is absolutely discharged, may lead a life of indolence and drunkenness with impunity, and cares not for suspicion so long as he is not actually detected in the commission of crime; and even then he calculates with a degree of cool audacity, upon the absence of direct evidence, and upon the difference of opinion in the jury-hox. I merely give the results of my practical experience, as I feel myself bound to do. I have always advocated the licence system, hecause the most daring and the most desperate feel its conditions, and tremhle at their violation, whilst the well-inclined feel that they are still degraded, but nevertheless secure from unjust accusations, if they adhere to the conditions of their discharge.

The most experienced officers of the Detective Police force are nnanimous in their approval of the workings of the licence system. They are well acquainted with the antecedents of almost every prisoner in our Dublin gaols, and who, it must he said, have always heen willing to assist me in discovering the haunts and accomplices of those men under my supervision, whom I snspected of leading dishonest and irregular lives; and here I would wish to observe, that, though I take to myself the credit of doing whatever little there is in my power to assist the men to live through honest industry, I also impress upon them, and give them practical proofs too, that I am equally disposed, on the other hand, to follow up and make an example of those who, forgetful of this assistance, and heedless of my anxiety in their welfare, thiuk they can pursue their old criminal ways with impunity. Often, when the toil of the day is over, I make my rounds of visitation amongst them, at hours when least expected; and should I not find them in their rooms at these hours, when the honest, industrious poor seek their rest, I notify this irregularity to the authorities who have the power to investigate the causes of their suspicious absence from home at these hours. Of course I know when to proceed in this way and when to avoid it. I need not add that I must have good grounds for my snspicion of the absent tenant hefore I direct the attention of the detective officers to the individnal suspected; hut I am seldom nistaken in these suspicions, and once entertained, I lose no time in relinqnishing my charge to the care of the above mentioned most excellent officials. Hence it is that no discharged conviot in my district, and whose name is returned in my visitation list, can continue in a life of crime without detection. By pursuing this course you, Gentlemen, can easily perceive how the repression of crime is effected in the district under my supervision. It is hy this means that we are fast approaching a crisis, when all the convict population of this

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country can be tabulated with accuracy and precision in the voluminous Report of the Census Commissioners—a crisis foreshadowed by the untenanted cells of the prisons of a country, in which it has been unjustly and unfairly stated, that the sympathies of the people were with the outcast and the criminal. I repudiated this statement in a former Report. I repeat that repudiation now, because I feel, and have felt, the injustice of so groundless and so erroneous a statement. Were those who make this assertion to come in contact, as I do almost every hour in the day, with the independent employers of the country, with the honest poor, and with the criminals, such an opinion would soon vanish, and those who entertain it would readily acknowledge their error.

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When I first entered upon my reformatory labours in 1856, there was scarcely a newspaper in the country which did not devote many leading and able articles to the all-absorbing question, "What shall we do with our criminals?" So far as Ireland is concerned, this question is no longer beset with alarming difficulties; and it would seem that the time is fast approaching when the question likely to engage the attention of the Irish Government will be not, what shall we do with our Irish criminals? but how shall we dispose of, and to what purpose shall we apply our Irish Convict Prisons?

In order to obviate the difficulty of dealing with so perplexing a question in future as the management and after-provision of criminals, I would humbly suggest that they should receive long sentences; be subject to strict discipline; trained to industrious habits, in such a manner as would induce them to look upon labour outside the prison walls infinitely less severe than that which they were called upon to perform inside, and for which, however, they should be fairly remunerated—not as a reward for the work done, so much as to enable them upon enlargement to fly their old companions, and forsake their former haunts by seeking a new and honourable livelihood in a country where their past character and antecedents are unknown. But, should they remain in Ireland, let them feel the effects of a long and strict supervision.

I cannot overrate the importance of industrial training to the well-disposed convicts; and the advantages which they derive from such training can be gathered from the fact, that many of them are at the present moment earning from 16*s.* to 24*s.* weekly at the trades which they were first taught in prison.

It is not likely that those men will ever trouble the Government for further support as inmates of prisons or workhouses;—the stigma of their past crimes is removed, and their loss of self-respect and self-dependence regained.

At Lusk, where all the prisoners are employed at agricultural labour, nothing can be more satisfactory than the manner in which all things go on, though in no prison in this country is convict labour more severe; but this is as it should be. In fact, nothing in my mind conduces so powerfully to the reformation of criminals, young or old, as steady, persevering labour. Train them up to that labour which brings the sweat upon their brows; teach them to avoid those vicious indulgences which rob the labourer of his strength, and deprive him of his domestic comforts and repose, and ultimately prove a source of sorrow. Impress them with the honour and dignity of honest labour; point out to them the pleasures and the joys resulting from successful toil;—let this be done, and the good arising from it will sooner or later reveal itself, if not in all, certainly in the majority.

But, in order that this training should have the desired effect, religion must have accomplished the great work of preparing the mental soil for the seeds of secular knowledge, and must have infused into the slothful, indolent mind, a desire to persevere in an honest, industrious career. We all know that "from religion man learns that all the artificial distinction of society are as nothing before the God who searcheth the heart. Religion, therefore, raises the labourer to the highest dignity of human existence, the knowledge of the will, and the enjoyment of the favour of God. Instructed by religion, the labourer knows how in daily toil he fulfils the duties and satisfies the moral and natural necessities of his existence, whilst the outward garb of mortality is gradually wearing off, and the spirit preparing for emancipation." To so grave a task as the reformation of criminals it is always necessary to bring a patient, hopeful, firm, and resigned spirit, in order that we should not be dismayed by the discouragement and disappointment inseparable from so important an undertaking. Failures must occur, and unforeseen difficulties arise, which for a time may shake our confidence; but he who

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would be unmanned by these things, had better avoid bringing his labour into the reformatory vineyard.

Drunkenness and indolence are the two great causes of crime, and with these the reformatory trainer, whether lay or spiritual, has to deal. These are the two great out-works fencing the "citadel of crime," and, until these are carried, crime will reign triumphant, bidding defiance to all our efforts, and defeating the life-struggles of the truest, most earnest, and most unswerving friends of a glorious, because a Christian cause.

The words of Sir Matthew Hale are as true to-day as they were when he first uttered them, for the tyrant intemperance is still doing his damning and mischievous work among the lower classes of our industrious community, and hurrying parent and child to workhouse and prison homes. About three centuries ago Lord Bacon declared, that "no one crime on earth destroys so many of the human race, nor alienates so much property, as drunkenness."

Sir Matthew Hale, nearly one hundred years afterwards, tells us, that "The places of judicature which I have long held in the kingdom have given me opportunity to observe the original cause of most of the enormities that have been committed for the space of nearly twenty years, and by due observation I have found, that if the murders and manslaughters, the burglaries and robberies, the riots and tumults, the adulteries, fornications, rapes, and other enormities that have happened in that time, were divided into five parts, four of them have been the issues and product of excessive drinking at tavern or ale-house meeting."

It is impossible to shut our eyes to the fact that by far the greater portion of the prisoners discharged during the four years of the working of the Intermediate system have been enabled, by the training they received, combined with the profits of their prison labour, to provide for themselves after discharge, and urged on by motives of industry and self-dependence, have taken their stand in the great and honourable field of industry, pursuing some one or other of its branches. Thus the burden of their re-conviction and support have been taken off the tax-paying public, and their minds, once vicious and demoralized, have undergone a training by which they have acquired motives for honesty and industry, pregnant with the happiest results to society and to themselves.

It is no doubt very easy to make a statement; but it is in this case as easy to prove its correctness, as the following facts clearly demonstrate:—

In the first place, I may observe that our Convict Prisons are becoming rapidly tenantless. Newgate prison has already been dispensed with.

In the second place, the state has been saved by the present system nearly £30,000 within the last few years.

In the third place, society has been protected, for it cannot be denied that the desperado and the villain have been induced to lead honest, industrious lives, through what motives, in many cases, I do not stop to inquire.

In the fourth place, by the system of supervision and visitation, the still criminally-inclined, being fully acquainted with the *profit* and *loss* of crime, see that it is quite impossible to follow crime for a length of time as a profession.

In the fifth place, as far as any system can go in breaking the neck of crime, the Irish system has gone.

Finally, whilst prisoners are in custody, we have endeavoured to infuse into them a taste for honest labour; and those acquainted with the system well know that these same prisoners have been enabled to carry their good intentions into effect unaided by charitable or philanthropic assistance.

These, Gentlemen, I respectfully submit, rank amongst many of the good results arising from the Irish system of convict discipline, a system, permit me to add, which has succeeded in the face of difficulty, and without encouragement—without public patronage—without any aid save that little assistance which a few kind employers gave to men whom they took upon my word as to the honesty of the men. This was the beginning—the end was that help which the men gave to me through their own good conduct in securing employment for their fellows.

Before drawing this Report to a close, I feel myself bound to bear testimony to the willing co-operation I have received, ever since the commencement of my labours in the convict service, from all the officers with whom my duties brought me in contact. The inestimable good effected by this co-operation is better read in results which have sprung from it.

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I cannot conclude this Report without mentioning the names of Messrs. Good and Bradfield, whose readiness at all times to assist me in the discharge of my duties can only be appreciated by myself. I here feel bound to thank them for their willing co-operation, and their zealous efforts in furthering a cause, in the success of which we all feel a deep and sincere interest; nor was this readiness to co-operate with me less valuable coming from Messrs. Gunning, Gallagher, and Daly, at Lusk, whose zeal in the discharge of their respective duties is only rivalled by their parent-like solicitude in the present and future well-doing of the men committed to their charge.

In conclusion, I beg to submit a few of the many copies of letters received from gentlemen in whose employment some of the Smithfield men have been from nearly the commencement of the Intermediate system of prison discipline in this country.

I leave the letters to speak for themselves.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JAMES P. ORGAN.

The Directors of Convict Prisons,
Dublin Castle.

January 1, 1860.

DEAR SIR,—The men whom you recommended to me nearly four years ago, from the Smithfield Reformatory, continue to serve me faithfully. My rate of wages is, perhaps, lower than that elsewhere given; but I must observe that my employment is constant, and those employed not subject to broken time through the inclemency of the weather or otherwise.

Three of the men have got married while in my employment, and appear to be comparatively comfortable.

At any time I may require hands I shall not object to take men from your reformatories upon your recommendation. I have, also, you are aware, taken women from the Golden Bridge Reformatories, to which you were kind enough to direct me. The women, I am glad to say, are going on most satisfactorily, and fully realized the expectations of the admirable lady presiding over that noble and philanthropic establishment.

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) J. M'D.

J. P. Organ, Esq., Mespil Cottage.

January 1, 1860.

DEAR SIR,—I feel happy to bear testimony to the good conduct and close attention to business of the two men you sent me the winter before last. They are still in my employment. I have raised their rate of wages this season, and allowed one of them a room in one of my houses. When next I want men I shall feel happy in applying to you.

Yours, faithfully,

(Signed) J. R——.

J. P. Organ, Esq., Mespil Cottage.

December 16, 1859.

DEAR SIR,—My brother and myself do not hesitate to say that the men we have received from the Smithfield Reformatory during the last three years turned out well, and worked to our satisfaction. We have had, at many times, from ten to fourteen of your men employed together, at wages varying from ten to eighteen shillings per week. I may observe that we have some of your men nearly the year round.

Yours, truly,

(Signed) J. D——.

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SMITHFIELD AND LUSK INTERMEDIATE PRISONS.

LUSK PRISON.

PROTESTANT CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Protestant Chaplain's Report.

The Vicarage, Lusk,
March, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to report that since I became Chaplain of the Lusk Convict Station, nineteen members of the Established Church have come under my care in that place.

It is with pleasure I state that, as far as I was able to observe, the conduct of these men has been unexceptionable. In church their deportment has been correct and reverend, so that the rest of the congregation has had reason to remark their good conduct; while, during my attendance at the station to give religious instruction, I have found no departure, on their part, from strict decorum and attentive demeanour.

In general, they are able to read, and seem familiar with the common formularies of their religion, evincing great willingness to receive instruction, and joining audibly in the public services.

I have not been able to prevail on any to attend at the Holy Communion, but possibly their disinclination to come forward on such an occasion may be attributed to the peculiarity of their position, rather than any unusual indifference on the subject.

Altogether, they have been a class in my ministrations, to whom I have had great satisfaction.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM REEVES, D.D., Vicar of Lusk.

To the Directors of Convict Prisons, &c., &c.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPLAIN'S REPORT.

Roman Catholic Chaplain's Report.

Lusk, March, 1860.

GENTLEMEN,—In my report for the past year, I am very happy to be able to say that every thing, both in management and conduct, has gone on very well in the Lusk Prison.

In truth, I must say, that it is edifying to see so many, called convicts, conducting themselves with so much propriety, that they have attracted the attention of even the most respectable class of persons who visit the church here on Sundays and holidays.

It is constantly said, "what an orderly and decent body of men those prisoners are?"

The management in the prison is very kind and good, and the good is quite reciprocal.

I often hear some of the poor fellows that happen to get sick, say, that they are attended to with such care and promptness, that their sickness was short and light. This reciprocity of feeling insures the success of the institution.

Gentlemen, I have the honour to remain, your obedient servant,

A. COSTIGAN, R. C. Chaplain.

To the Chairman and Directors of the
Convict Prisons in Ireland.

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APPENDIX.

Notice.

1. The Act of Parliament passed in June, 1857, provides that sentences of penal servitude are to be of the same duration as sentences of transportation previously awarded, instead of the sentences of shorter extent under the Act of 1853—thus, a sentence of *four years' penal servitude* under the Act of 1853, stands in place of a sentence of *seven years' transportation;* whereas for the same offence under the recent Act of 1857, the sentence awarded is liable to be one of *seven years' penal servitude.*

In the case of the shorter sentences under the Act of 1853, the whole has to be spent in imprisonment, a certain proportion, in the case of well conducted prisoners, being allowed to be passed in Intermediate Prisons, but in the case of sentences under the recent Act, the terms being longer, a portion is allowed to be remitted on licence towards the end of the sentence, if the conduct of the prisoner shall have been deserving of this indulgence

The following scale shows the earliest periods at which prisoners convicted under the recent Act may qualify themselves by *unexceptionable conduct* for admission to the privileges of the Intermediate Prisons:—

Scale.

Sentences.	Shortest periods of imprisonment.		Periods of remission on licence.
	In Ordinary Prisons.	Shortest period of detention in Intermediate Prisons.	
	Years. Months.	Years. Months.	
3 Years	2 2	0 4	The periods remitted on licence will be proportionate to the length of sentences, and will depend upon the fitness of each convict for release, after a careful consideration has been given to his case by the Government.
	2—6		
4 ,,	2 10	0 5	
	3—3		
5 ,,	3 6	0 6	
	4—0		
6 ,,	3 9	0 9	
	4—6		
7 ,,	4 0	1 3	
	5—3		
8 ,,	4 8	1 4	
	6—0		
10 ,,	6 0	1 6	
	7—6		
12 ,,	7 3	1 9	
	9—0		
15 ,,	8 0	2 0	
	10	0	

2. The above earliest possible periods of removal to Intermediate Prisons apply only to those of the most unexceptionable character, and no remission of the full sentence will take place unless the prisoner has qualified himself by carefully measured good conduct for passing the periods in the Intermediate Prisons pre-

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scribed by the rules, and any delay in this qualification will have the effect of postponing his admission into the Intermediate Prisons, and thereby deferring to the same extent the remission of a portion of his sentence.

3. Convicts under sentence for "Life" will not be eligible for consideration for remission under twelve years; in the event of their misconducting themselves they will not be eligible at so early a period, and may be retained even for "Life."

4. According to the requirements of the colony of Western Australia, a certain number of convicts may be sent from this country from time to time; the selection will be made from the well conducted at about half the period of their sentence. Convicts under "Life Sentences" will not be eligible for removal until eight years from the date of their conviction.

5. It will be quite evident to the convicts that their future position depends upon their own exertions, and that the importance of the classification in force in the prisons and of the marks regulating it, has been much increased by these rules.

6. It will be necessary, therefore, that each convict should make himself thoroughly acquainted both with these rules and the classification which is to govern them as quickly as possible, for which every facility will be afforded him. He will thus learn the importance of preserving a good character in Mountjoy Prison as well as on the Public Works.

7. There may be exceptional cases and crimes of such a heinous description as to preclude offenders from being treated in the ordinary manner; these will be dealt with specially by the Government.

By Order,

WALTER CROFTON, *Chairman.*
JOHN LENTAIGNE, } *Directors.*
I. S. WHITTY, }

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RETURN showing the PROPORTION of SICK and DEATHS to the Number of Prisoners in the Irish Convict Prisons for the years 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, and 1859.

—	1854.					1855.				
	Spike Island and Phillipstown.	Cork and Grangegorman.	Newgate and Smithfield.	Mountjoy.	Totals, 1854.	Spike Island and Phillipstown.	Cork and Grangegorman.	Newgate and Smithfield.	Mountjoy.	Totals, 1855.
No. of Prisoners, .	2,290	339	556	443	3,628	1,777	488	430	452	3,147
Average daily No. of Sick, . .	276	25	46	21	368	203	36	65	17	321
No. of Deaths, .	241	6	33	9	289	101	8	31	9	149
Per-centage on prison population, .	10·5	1·8	5·9	2·	8·	5·7	1·6	7·2	2·	4·7

—	1856.					1857.				
	Spike Island and Phillipstown.	Cork and Grangegorman.	Newgate and Smithfield.	Mountjoy.	Totals, 1856.	Spike Island and Phillipstown.	Cork, Grangegorman, and Newgate.	Smithfield and Lusk.	Mountjoy.	Totals, 1857.
No. of Prisoners, .	1,619	613	199	421	2,852	1,329	686	70	357	2,442
Average daily No. of Sick, . .	101	42	35	16	194	67	37	6	16	126
No. of Deaths, .	35	11	5	3	54	34	6	2	3	45
Per-centage on prison population, .	2·1	1·8	2·5	·7	1·9	2·6	·9	2·9	·8	1·8

—	1858.					1859.				
	Spike Island and Phillipstown.	Female Prisons.	Smithfield and Lusk.	Mountjoy Male.	Totals, 1858.	Spike Island and Phillipstown.	Mountjoy Female.	Smithfield and Lusk.	Mountjoy Male.	Totals, 1859.
No. of Prisoners, .	1,003	593	97	320	2,013	837	464	99	293	1,693
Average daily No. of Sick, . .	41	41	4	12	98	32	14	3	13	62
No. of Deaths, .	16	12	2	3	33	11	3	–	1	15
Per-centage on prison population, .	1·6	2·	3·6	0·9	1·6	1·3	0·6	–	0·3	0·9

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